

JPRS 80364

19 March 1982

# South and East Asia Report

No. 1112

**FBIS** FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

#### NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

#### PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

19 March 1982

## SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

No. 1112

## CONTENTS

## INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

- Asian Legislators To Establish Population, Development Forum  
(Manolo B. Jara; BUSINESS TIMES, 27 Jan 82) ..... 1
- Most Asian Countries 'Spend More on Defense Than Social  
Services'  
(Adlai J. Amor; BUSINESS TIMES, 11 Feb 82)..... 3

## INDIA

- Gandhi Remarks on Soviet Relations, Pakistan Reported  
(Indira Gandhi Interview; DIE PRESSE, 17 Feb 82) ..... 5
- Briefs  
    Envoy to St Lucia ..... 7  
    Ambassador to France ..... 7

## INDONESIA

- Shift in Jakarta's Perceptions of Moscow, Peking  
(NEW STRAITS TIMES, 15 Feb 82) ..... 8
- New Budget Cuts Subsidies, Raises Development Expenditure  
(Warief Djajanto; BUSINESS TIMES, 12 Feb 82) ..... 9
- Decline in Foreign Reserves Attributed to Seasonal Factors  
(BUSINESS TIMES, 15 Feb 82) ..... 10
- Political, Religious Similarities With Iran  
(Richard Cowper; BUSINESS TIMES, 17 Feb 82) ..... 11
- Shift From Log Exports to Plywood, Sawn Timber  
(BUSINESS TIMES, 8 Feb 82) ..... 13

## KAMPUCHEA

Editorial Hits Sihanouk on Past Ties With DK (Editorial; MOULKHMER, Jan 82) .....	14
Ponchaud Alleges Thai, DK Mistreatment of Refugees (Francois Ponchaud; AVENIR CAMBODGE, Jan 82) .....	16

## LAOS

Centralized Economic Planning Stressed (VIENTIANE MAI, 8 Dec 81) .....	19
Forest Size, Exploitation and Management Discussed (VIENTIANE MAI, 12 Nov 81) .....	20
Food To Be Exported, Industrial Raw Material Supply Noted (VIENTIANE MAI, 9 Dec 81) .....	22
Parents Urged Not To Let Children Watch Thai TV (VIENTIANE MAI, 8 Dec 81) .....	23
Plywood Meets World Standards, Exports Planned (VIENTIANE MAI, 12 Nov 81) .....	24
Bags Bearing Royalist Regime Symbols Confiscated (VIENTIANE MAI, 9 Dec 81) .....	25

## MALAYSIA

Tin Production To Be Reduced 25 Percent (BUSINESS TIMES, 10, 11 Feb 82) .....	27
Reduced Dependence on Tin Revenue Response to U.S. Dumping, Editorial	

## NEPAL

Drastic Political Changes May Follow Death of Koirala (Aditya Man Shrestha; BUSINESS TIMES, 4 Feb 82) .....	29
--	----

## PAKISTAN

Need for Transfer of Power Stressed (VIEWPOINT, 18 Feb 82) .....	31
Policy on Political Activities Questioned (VIEWPOINT, 18 Feb 82) .....	32
Political Ban, Other Issues Examined (VIEWPOINT, 18 Feb 82) .....	34



Ban Called 'Inappropriate and Incorrect' (VIEWPOINT, 18 Feb 82) .....	36
Federal Council Seen as Vehicle for Voicing Public's Sentiments (Mohammad Ziauddin; BUSINESS TIMES, 16 Feb 82) .....	37
University Teachers' Grievances Discussed (VIEWPOINT, 18 Feb 82) .....	38
Baluchistan Leader 'Plays Moscow's Game in Demanding Provincial Autonomy' (Editorial; MASHRIQ, 26 Jan 82) .....	40
Soviet Propaganda Against Pakistan (Editorial; JANG, 12 Dec 81) .....	42
Article Lauds Urdu, Questions Continued Use of English (Kalim Akhtar; CHATAN, 7 Dec 81) .....	44
Briefs	
Mubashir Banned From Travel	46
Veterinary Students' Demands	46
PDP Leader's Release Demanded	46
Labor Front Demands	47
Political Activist a Suspect	47
PHILIPPINES	
Potential Strength Seen in New Opposition Party (Adlai J. Amor; BUSINESS TIMES, 1 Feb 82) .....	48
MNLF Attacks Decrease, Government Forces Withdrawn (Mario Baluyot; BUSINESS TIMES, 10 Feb 82) .....	49
Creditable 1981 Economic Performance Despite Hostile Factors (Manolo B. Jara; BUSINESS TIMES, 13 Feb 82) .....	50
SINGAPORE	
Government Backing for Traditional Values (Francis Daniel; BUSINESS TIMES, 9 Feb 82) .....	51
Key Figure in Muslim Extremist Organization (BORNEO BULLETIN, 23 Jan 82) .....	52
SRI LANKA	
Rival Factions Divide Opposition Party (Mallikā Wanigasundara; BUSINESS TIMES, 28 Jan 82) .....	53
Parliament Building Completed in New Administrative Capital (Clarence Fernando; BUSINESS TIMES, 9 Feb 82) .....	54

THAILAND

CPT's 40th Anniversary Finds Party Bruised But Not Broken  
(Anuraj Manibhandu; BUSINESS TIMES, 2 Feb 82) ..... 55

VIETNAM

Shortage of Cable Delays Expansion of Cable Radio Network  
(Alex Marshall; BUSINESS TIMES, 3 Feb 82) ..... 56

## ASIAN LEGISLATORS TO ESTABLISH POPULATION, DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 27 Jan 82 p 19

[Article by Manolo B. Jara]

[Text] ASIAN legislators have agreed to set up an Asian Parliamentarians' Forum on Population and Development.

Its establishment, competent observers said, underscores the parliamentarians' growing awareness of and a common concern for the need to integrate population policies into Asia's development programmes.

The Forum's establishment was one of the more significant results from the Asian Parliamentarians' Conference on Population and Development held here Oct. 27-30. More than 200 delegates from 19 Asian nations attended the first-ever major international meeting hosted by the Chinese government in cooperation with the United Nations.

Spearheading the Forum's establishment was the five-member Asean. Sponsored by Thailand and supported by the four other Asean members, the organisation aims to:

- Coordinate the activities and involvement of Asian parliamentarians in population and development; and,

- Seek ways and means to secure adequate financial and administrative support for its effective operation.

Informed sources told *Depinencies* that pledges of assistance and support for the Forum's operations have already been made by Japan and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

"The Forum is already as good as established," the sources said. "The only remaining question now is where it should be based."

### Result

Earlier, Japan offered Tokyo as the Forum headquarters but it met stiff resistance from the delegates, according to the sources.

Another significant conference result was the unanimous adoption of the Beijing Declaration on Population and Development.

In the declaration, the MPs expressed concern, among other things, on the adverse impact of the imbalance between population and Asia's natural resources.

This resulted "in deforestation, soil erosion and other ecological changes leading to a deterioration of the natural environment which, if unchecked, will threaten the very human existence."

The legislators also took note of Asia's effective population policies and family planning programmes during the last two decades. As a result, they said, the region has contributed significantly to the decline in the global birth rate.

According to UNFPA executive director Rafael Sala, Asia's population growth rate has gone down from 2.1 per cent in the 1960s to 1.8 per cent during 1975-80.

Despite this achievement, however, much more needs to be done in the light of stark demographic realities prevailing in Asia. For instance, the MPs acknowledged that Asia now accounts for nearly 60 per cent of the total world population.

### Trend

Its present population is estimated at 2.8 billion but it is projected to grow by another billion by the year 2000.

The most disturbing fact about Asia's population scene is that 90 per cent of the world's poor live in Asia. Estimates are that in the 1970s, those living in absolute poverty stood at 500 million.

If the trend continues, it is estimated that another 300 million will be added to Asia's poorest of the poor just in the 1980s. "This large proportion of our population suffer from malnutrition, illiteracy, ill health and thus does not fully enjoy their basic human rights and the benefits of development," the MPs noted.

Asia's women and youth population has likewise been a cause of the MPs' concern. In the case of women, although they "constitute nearly 50 per cent of the region's total population, they have not been accorded equal opportunity to effectively participate in the development process and share in its benefits."

The youth seem to be another neglected sector in Asia's population. Nearly 60 per cent of the region's total population are below 25 years old but "they have not been provided adequate opportunities for their development to the fullest potential as citizens and leaders of the future."

### Policies

As legislators, the delegates felt they could help a lot in alleviating the plight of Asia's poor.

UNFPA's Mr Salas himself acknowledged their vital role in his speech at the first World Parliament on Population and Development held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Aug. 27, 1979.

He said: "The informed involvement of national legislators in as complex and sensitive a question as population will serve to deepen their knowledge of the needs of their constituencies. Communication between a government and its people must be a two-way process if development is to proceed in a sustained and orderly manner.

"To give substance and vigour to this process, one of the most effective links is the legislator who brings the message from the village to the chief executive who, in turn, transforms parliamentary policies into executive action.

"This vital link has been recognised by many countries which have taken measures with the active involvement of the MPs to devolve the apparatus of development into the rural areas to increase community participation." — Depth.

news Asia

### POPULATION OF ASIA, 1950 AND 1975, AND 'MEDIUM' PROJECTIONS, 1980 AND 2000

REGION	POPULATION (millions)				PERCENTAGE INCREASE	
	1950	1975	1980	2000	1950-1975	1975-2000
ASIA*	1,379	2,318	2,558	3,611	68.1	55.8
EAST ASIA	673	1,063	1,136	1,406	58.0	32.2
SOUTH ASIA	706	1,255	1,422	2,205	77.8	75.7
Eastern	177	325	368	559	83.6	72.0
Middle	486	845	956	1,482	73.9	75.4
Western	43	85	98	164	97.7	92.9

Source: United Nations (New York: UN: ST/ESA/SER. A633).

\* East Asia is composed of the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Macao and Mongolia. Eastern South Asia encompasses the countries of Brunei, Burma, Democratic Kampuchea, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos), Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Middle South Asia is made up of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Western Asia comprises Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Democratic Yemen.

# MOST ASIAN COUNTRIES 'SPEND MORE ON DEFENSE THAN SOCIAL SERVICES'

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Adlai J. Amor]

[Text]

ASIAN countries in general are spending more money for their military forces than they do for basic social services such as health and education.

A Depthnews survey reveals that from 1975-1979, ten Asian countries spent an average of 20 per cent of their total expenditures for military purposes.

However, expenditures for health services averaged only 4.5 per cent of the total, while that for education averaged only 12.5 per cent for the same period.

For every US\$1 spent by Asian governments, 20 cents went to the military, 4 cents to health and 12 cents to education.

And despite decades long international initiatives for disarmament and a reduction in military spending, it is likely that Asia will be spending more and more money on its military forces than for basic social services.

The countries included in the survey are Burma, India, South Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Nepal and Sri

Lanka. Other data from other countries indicate a similar trend in the rest of Asia.

The data from these ten countries correspond with the findings of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament on the escalating arms race and its costs in terms of development.

Today, the world spend roughly US\$500 billion annually on armaments — or US\$1.37 billion daily. Already, man has the capacity to blow the world 40 times over with the more than 40,000 nuclear weapons in stockpile — a stockpile which is one million times more powerful than the Hiroshima bomb.

On the other hand, there are some 570 million severely under-nourished people in the

world, while some 800 million are illiterate. Some 1.5 billion people have little or no access to modern health.

And the world hungers, with nearly 1 out of 5 people remaining hungry from cradle to grave.

Yet, if US\$200 million — the price of two bombers — were given towards a worldwide literacy campaign, it could free every country from the curse of illiteracy.

And malaria, trachoma, leprosy and yaws could be eliminated forever if only the cost of one aircraft carrier — US\$500 million — were made available to the World Health Organisation.

An international team of specialists commissioned by the United Nations has concluded that the low-income

countries of Asia could improve their per capita consumption by as much as 47.8 per cent with even a partial reduction in military expenditures throughout Asia.

Pakistan and South Korea spent 33 per cent of their total expenditures on the military — the highest in the region. They are followed by Singapore with 27 per cent and Burma with 26 per cent.

Among the lowest military spenders are Nepal (6.7 per cent) and Sri Lanka (2.5 per cent).

Despite it being frontline state, Thailand has been consistently spending more for the education of its people than on the military. It spent 71,222 million baht (US\$3,110 million) or 20 per cent of its total expenditures on education



while the military sector got only 18 per cent.

The same situation holds for Sri Lanka, which spent four times for the education of its people and twice for health services than on the military.

Malaysia also spent more for the education of its people (22 per cent) than on the military (16 per cent) for the same period. However, its health expenditures are very much lower than its military expenses.

Political observers say that it is unlikely Asian countries will deliberately reduce its military spending. This is largely because of the tensions in the region, especially the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the perceived threat of Vietnamese expansionist plans, and internal communist insurgencies.

The Indochina conflict continues, with Kampuchea and Thailand bearing the brunt of the war. As refugees stream into Thailand, it has become a major destabilising force in the region.

The Philippines faces a secessionist movement in the south and a resurgent communist party. India still has the radicals called Naxalites, while Bangladesh faces rebellion from the hill tribes near Chittagong. Malaysia and Indonesia both face the threat of growing Islamic fundamentalism.

All these tensions have contributed to an increase in the military budgets of Asian countries.

Even the United States — which is the region's largest arms salesman and military aid donor — has started to increase its

aid and arms sales to the region.

"With the unstable internal conditions and the escalating Indochinese conflict, the US has no other alternative except to continue increasing its military aid to the region," a Pentagon analyst told Depthnews in an interview last year.

This is especially true for the member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean). Military aid reached US\$819.7 million from 1975-80 compared with only US\$327.43 million during the first half of the 70s. It is estimated that US military aid accounts for 10 per cent of the military budgets in the region.

Accompanying this upswing is an increase in arms sales to Asean countries which are largely dependent on US

aid to modernise their military forces. Asean countries account for more than 10 per cent of East Asia's total arms sales of US\$11,086 million from 1973-77.

With such a situation, diplomats seriously doubt whether the Asean region will ever become a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality as has been consistently espoused by Malaysia since the late '60s.

In South Asia, diplomats say that the prospects for peace appear to be gloomy due to the worsening relations between India and Pakistan. Despite Pakistani overtures for a "no war" treaty, India remains wary of its Muslim neighbour. And their armies face each other eyeball-to-eyeball across a thin border. — Depthnews Asia.

## ASIAN DEFENCE EXPENDITURES 1975-79

Country	Currency	Total	Defence	%	Health	%	Education	%
Burma (1)	Kyat (Mn)	15,457	4,027	26	997	6	1,821	12
India	Rupee (Bn)	641.89	131.27	20	12.77	2	13.28	2
South Korea	Won (Bn)	15,704.6	5,279.5	33	207	1.3	2,512.7	16
Malaysia	R'ggit (Mn)	42,293	6,853	16	2,781	6.6	9,277	22
Pakistan	Rupee (Mn)	133,513	43,246	33	2,061	1.5	3,148	2.3
Philippines	Peso (Mn)	117,462	20,286	17.3	5,034	4	14,848	12.6
Singapore	S\$ (Mn)	16,209	4,367	27	1,257	8	2,617	16
Thailand	Baht (Mn)	349,199	63,919	18	14,857	4	71,222	20
Nepal	Rupee (Mn)	11,154.5	754.1	6.7	628	5.6	1,222.8	11
Sri Lanka (2)	Rupee (Mn)	23,151	595	2.5	1,408	6	2,595	11

(1) From 1975-1978 only, (2) From 1975-1977 only

(Mn) million, (Bn) billion

Source: Government Finance Statistics Yearbook (IMF, 1981)

## GANDHI REMARKS ON SOVIET RELATIONS, PAKISTAN REPORTED

AU181305 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 17 Feb 82 p 3

[Gabriele Venzky interview with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi: "Indira Gandhi Does Not Understand the United States Any More: 'We Will Not Let Ourselves Be Labeled Vassals of the Kremlin'"--place and date not specified]

[Excerpt] For the first time the sovereign manner with which Indira Gandhi claims absolute independence for herself and for her country gives the impression of being genuine. Does she feel she is being pushed by the United States into the Soviet camp? "No! We will not allow ourselves to be pushed in any direction. We are only doing what we regard as right. It is our interest to be as independent and self-reliant as possible."

And the relationship with the Soviet Union has noticeably cooled off, indeed. "Common interests do exist, yes." Invitations to Moscow have thus far been ignored, however. And how will things go with the Americans? "They are fashioning their strategies in such a way that there is no room for India," Indira Gandhi notes regretfully. "But the Americans are such friendly and dynamic people. At least the people should act differently than the Reagan administration," she finds. "They at least ought to do something." But U.S.-Indian relations are bad as never before in the history of the two countries. Delhi's allegedly excessively pro-Soviet attitude on the Afghanistan issue has prompted the U.S. administration carelessly and frivolously to brand India as a Kremlin vassal. It is true though that up to the present day the Indians have not been able to pluck up courage to denounce the Soviet entry into that country. Mrs Gandhi: "But we actually have done a great deal. Many things, however, do not depend on those directly affected. Much also depends on others. That is why we cannot do anything, either. The situation is complicated because there are third parties in the background and because it is not just two countries that are involved. But we are keeping the ball rolling and shall try to do all we can."

Indira Gandhi painstakingly avoids being specific. She is silent about what she intends to do. But is already because of Pakistan that India is interested in a detente in Afghanistan, because the people in Delhi are convinced that the archenemy Pakistan is exploiting the situation in Pakistan for the mere purpose of massively arming against India with U.S. assistance. One could almost speak of a war psychosis which has enveloped India. Hardly a day goes by without

the Indian papers reporting about preparations for war. There is hardly any political conversation which does not immediately revolve around the super modern F-16 fighter planes which the Americans wish to deliver to the Pakistanis. Even though the 4-day negotiations with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Agha Shahi in Delhi in late January brought a ray of hope for the future of bilateral relations, a nonaggression pact between the two countries is as remote as ever.

#### The Main Evil Is Corruption

The offer for talks by the Pakistani head of government Ziaul Haq has come too suddenly for Mrs Gandhi. She does not quite trust it. "We are surprised and do not know what he is up to." And she is firmly convinced: "Even now they are planning a war; not against all of India but against part of it."

She does not want to listen to references to India's defense efforts, which will cost the country \$15 billion in the end and thus will far exceed Pakistan's expenditures. "Our defense efforts are much smaller if put in context with the country and its population. Just think of the extent of our land and our maritime borders!"

Does India fear such a small country as Pakistan? "No, naturally not. But after all, they have already attacked us five times. The better we are prepared the less our people must suffer."

CSO: 4220/7859

INDIA

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO ST LUCIA--Ramesh Chandra Shukla, high commissioner of India to Trinidad and Tobago, has been concurrently accredited as high commissioner of India to Saint Lucia with residence in Port of Spain. [Text] [BK090615 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1455 GMT 8 Feb 82]

AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE--Narendra Singh, presently ambassador of India to Switzerland, has been appointed ambassador of India to France in succession to Maharaj Krishna Rasgotra. He is expected to take up his assignment shortly. [Text] [BK120741 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0837 GMT 10 Feb 82]

CSO: 4220/7860

# SHIFT IN JAKARTA'S PERCEPTIONS OF MOSCOW, PEKING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Feb 82 p 15

[Text]

**JAKARTA, Sun.** — Indonesia's Soviet spy scandal has all the ingredients of an espionage novel — clandestine meetings, secret drops, special cameras, even a pitched battle with security men.

But more significantly it highlighted a shift in Jakarta's perceptions of Moscow and Peking. Diplomatically, the change has been subtle but the espionage element was dramatic.

It unfolded eight days ago when authorities expelled military attache Sergei Egorov and arrested Alexander Finenko, head of the local office of the Soviet airline Aeroflot.

A brawl broke out when Finenko tried to join Egorov on the flight back to Moscow. An Indonesian naval officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Sudaryanto, was also arrested, accused of involvement in the alleged spy ring.

Less than a week later, embassy attache Gregor Odariuk was quietly asked to leave. He too had been involved in the airport fistfight.

Diplomatic analysts said that for years the Russians have benefited from — some officials say taken advantage of — Indonesia's "frozen" relations and deep distrust of Peking.

Now, leading military and security figures are arguing quietly that perhaps the balance has been tipped too far in

Moscow's favour.

Some officials have openly said they believe Moscow poses a greater threat to Indonesia than does Peking, at least in the short term.

President Suharto's staunchly anti-communist new order regime emerged from the political confusion and economic anarchy of Sukarnolism which came to a head in 1965 with an abortive communist-backed coup.

Peking was blamed for masterminding the attempted coup. More than 500,000 suspected communists were arrested and about the same number of people were officially estimated to have been slaughtered in the aftermath.

## Speculation

At the same time, the charismatic but discredited President Sukarno was eased from power.

The Chinese Embassy was closed and the remnants of the now-banned PKI communist party fled to China. A handful went to the Soviet Union and Albania.

Ties with Moscow, though strained, were not broken. The Russians built a huge new embassy and relations became most warm in 1979 when they staged a big industrial and trade fair here.

There was speculation that they were reassessing abandoned Soviet aid projects but nothing came of it and Western companies continued to complete them.

In recent months, however, Soviet-Indonesian relations have taken a turn for the worse. Opposition Muslim Party members of Parliament complained loudly about Moscow radio broadcast references to the PKI. Jakarta officially protested to Moscow.

There was nothing new in such broadcast references to the PKI but Indonesia's reaction led to a street demonstration and a statement earlier this month by Vice-President Adam Malik that relations with the Soviet Union could be disrupted if they continued.

Then came the spy charges, the departure of the diplomats, the airport brawl and the arrests.

Official sources said Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja wanted to keep the attache's expulsion quiet but this became impossible after the fistfight.

Any talk of a rapprochement with China would have been heresy only a few months ago.

But according to well-informed Indonesian sources several of President Suharto's influential advisers in state and military intelligence agencies are arguing that something of the sort is necessary to balance Soviet power.

National Security chief Admiral Sudomo said late last year that he believed the Soviet Union and a surrogate expansionist Vietnam now posed the greatest security threat.

But there are other considerations.

Internally, the authorities have always regarded the ethnic Chinese community with suspicion and with the election campaign officially starting on March 15, it seems most unlikely that there would be any overt moves towards Peking that might excite political debate.

While there is no doubt the government Golkar Party will win, authorities want above all to avoid what is described as an "an overheated political atmosphere."

Externally, a Foreign Ministry worry is that moves to cut down the big Soviet presence here — more than 40 diplomats and 100 "maintenance officers" — would provoke Soviet reprisals over East Timor.

Indonesia's annexation of the former Portuguese colony in 1976 has not been recognised by the United Nations and Jakarta actively lobbies for support in an annual U.N. resolution on the issue calling for self-determination.

Moscow has allowed several Soviet bloc countries to change from voting against Indonesia to abstaining and Dr Mochtar has publicly expressed his appreciation of this.

A few days after the spy scandal broke, he commented that he was confident it would not damage the "good relations" between Jakarta and Moscow. — Reuter.



## NEW BUDGET CUTS SUBSIDIES, RAISES DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 12 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Warief Djajanto]

[Text]

**PRESIDENT** Suharto has presented a new budget that warmed the hearts of his economic advisers but hurt the pockets of the ordinary Indonesians.

But the President was quick to defend his budget. He said it was the only way to ensure that the government's development plans are pursued without major hindrances.

And to do this, he said, the government is pouring more money into development programmes instead of into routine spending. As a result, fuel subsidies have been drastically cut and a freeze has been ordered on government salary increases.

"To continue development remains the only choice. To delay it will only prolong the sufferings and demanding life that will be harder to remedy in the future," Mr Suharto said in his budget message to Parliament.

At the same time, he appealed to the Indonesians to carry a greater share in the price of

progress so that on-going development projects could continue unimpeded. The President appeal seems well-founded.

The budget for the new fiscal year starting April 1, totals 15,607 billion rupiah (US\$25 billion) up by 12.3 per cent from the 1981-82 budget of 13,900 billion rupiah (US\$22 billion). Fuel subsidies were slashed from 1,500 billion rupiah (US\$2.4 billion) to 924 billion rupiah (US\$1.5 billion); food subsidies were cut from 2.9 billion rupiah (US\$495 million) to 188 billion rupiah (US\$300 million).

Due to the fuel subsidy reduction, the price of petrol rose by 60 per cent. What this means is that Indonesian motorists now have to pay 240 rupiah (US\$0.38) for a litre of premium petroleum; housewives too have to pay 75 rupiah (US\$0.12) instead of the original 50 rupiah (US\$0.08) for litre of kerosene.

President Suharto said the decision to slash subsidies was "made with a heavy heart under com-

pulsion." Several international funding institutions like the World Bank, and Indonesian economic advisers have long been pressing for the elimination of state subsidies.

The Suharto government ended 1981, with a strong showing on the economic front. Indonesia had a bumper rice harvest of 22 million tons, up 10 per cent from 1980. The annual rate of inflation was 7.09 per cent. The economic growth rate, pending final calculations, was expected to reach a high 9 per cent. In industry, more than a dozen multi-million dollar projects from fertiliser plants to paper mills are under construction.

The government argues that to maintain the momentum in the face of worldwide economic recession, austerity measures should be carried out.

The belt-tightening measures fuelled speculation of an imminent devaluation of the rupiah. Money exchange dealers in Jakarta were

swamped with people demanding to buy American dollars and other foreign currencies. The run increased the changer's selling price of the US dollar from 640 rupiah to 656 rupiah.

To dispel speculations, Mr Suharto asserted twice in five days that the government had no intention of devaluing the rupiah.

Economists and parliamentarians said they expected the government to increase the domestic price of fuel, but not so soon. They had expected the increase after the May 4 general elections to elect new members of Parliament.

Mr Suharto's decision to jack up fuel prices, however, apparently did not result in any adverse political fallout. In fact, all factions in Parliament approved the move, saying it was necessary and understandable. The absence of any opposition, in this sense, indicates that the President will have easy sailing when he runs for re-election in March 1983.

— Depthnews Asia

DECLINE IN FOREIGN RESERVES ATTRIBUTED TO SEASONAL FACTORS

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 15 Feb 82 p 19

[Text]

JAKARTA, Feb. 14

THE governor of the Central Bank told the parliament Budget Commission yesterday that Indonesia's foreign exchange reserves at the end of January stood at US\$6.5 million, a decline of about US\$800 million from US\$7.3 million last April, the beginning of the outgoing fiscal year.

He said the decline was caused by seasonal factors because almost all of Indonesia's foreign exchange reserves came from payments by foreign oil contractors.

The oil companies usually make their payments in April, July, October or January, bank governor Rachmat said.

He said the reserves as in past years were inclined to decrease in January and February and would increase again usually in April.

Mr Rachmat said the rise in fuel oil prices has lately affected the rise of the rate of inflation in this country.

The government increased the price of fuel oils at the average 60 per cent early last month.

The rate of inflation in the past 10 months

from April 1981 to January this year had increased by 9.1 per cent, Mr Rachmat said.

He said the inflation rate from April to December stood at 4.4 per cent. But, he added it increased by 4.7 per cent in January.

However, Mr Rachmat expressed confidence that current government efforts to retain the rate of inflation for the fiscal year not to exceed the rate of last fiscal year would be achieved.

The previous fiscal year inflation rate stood below 10 per cent, informed sources said.

They said efforts include adequate supplies of rice and other essential commodities in order to prevent domestic increase of prices and intensify non-oil export commodities.

Mr Rachmat said the government's economic policy in the 1982-1983 fiscal year would include incentives for non-oil exporters by providing them with low interest rate — between six to nine per cent.

Sources said previously the export interest rate was between 10 and 12 per cent. — AP

## POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS SIMILARITIES WITH IRAN

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 17 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Richard Cowper]

[Text]

A 32-YEAR-OLD Indonesian is on trial in Jakarta charged with attempting to overthrow the Indonesian government in an Iranian style revolution.

Imron bin Muhammad Zein clearly never posed any serious military threat to the 16-year-old government of President Suharto.

But the fanfare surrounding the trial illustrates the point that Indonesia's army leaders see orthodox Islam as the only serious opposition political force in Indonesia today.

The Imron case conjures up some of the most extreme fears of Indonesia's security-minded and secularist army leadership.

Charged with setting up a self-styled Islamic revolutionary council, Imron is accused of masterminding last year's hijack of an Indonesian airliner and of plotting to kidnap the Iraqi oil minister as part of a plan to overthrow the government and set up an Islamic state along the lines of Ayatollah Khomeini's in Iran.

When Khomeini toppled the Shah and proclaimed an Islamic state in a nation that was held

up by the West as a shining example of stability and economic development, it was a chilling reminder to President Suharto's government of the potential political power of fundamentalist Islam in its own country.

Though no one is pretending that Imron had anything like the power and influence of Ayatollah Khomeini, there are a number of similarities between pre-revolutionary Iran and present-day Indonesia.

Indonesia is by far the world's largest Islamic country, with 135 million Muslims living there. And as with Iran under the Shah Indonesia is a major producer and exporter of petroleum and is strategically important to the world's non-Communist industrialised nations.

Sprawled across the main trading route between Japan and the Middle East, Indonesia is one of the world's leading exporters of rubber, palm oil, tin and timber. And, like the Shah, President Suharto has always laid great stress on modernisation and economic development.

Some of the circumstances which helped to

topple the Shah would appear to exist in Indonesia today.

A broad Islamic political alliance forms the only real opposition to the Suharto government, and a number of its leading figures regard the new order regime as authoritarian and corrupt.

In private, some of them have been quick to denounce high-cost, low employment projects like the US\$2.5 billion Krakatau steelworks and the US\$2 billion Asahan aluminium complex which, they say, are grandiose schemes unsuited to a nation which has to feed 3 million people and provide 2 million new jobs a year.

Many areas in Indonesia are undergoing a process of rapid social change, which is putting noticeable strains on traditional values and ways of life.

A rapidly-growing urban population (Jakarta now has almost 7 million inhabitants) has already begun to give rise to a worrying increase in urban crime rates, and sociologists point with concern to the wave of pitched battles between secondary school pupils in the capital over the past 18 months.

In some areas of Indonesia, there is a powerful tradition of revolutionary Islam. The Achinese in the northernmost province of Sumatra waged a 100 years war against the Dutch East Indies government, and after independence fought a number of campaigns, inspired by their desire for an Islamic state, against the Jakarta authorities.

The Bugia, in southern Celebes, and the Sundanese, in West Java, also fought armed campaigns against the central government in the 1950s.

But here the similarities with Iran end.

Indonesia today does not have a Khomeini waiting his chance to take over, nor does it seem likely that the country's masses will rise up to depose President Suharto in a holy war against modernisation.

Indonesia may have the world's largest Muslim population, but about 80 per cent are Muslims in name only. These people hold a wide mix of beliefs, ranging from animism to Hinduism and modern secularism, which makes Indonesia one of the world's most tolerant and least orthodox Islamic nations.

For the vast majority of Indonesians, the idea of a truly Islamic state would be anathema.

### Doctrinal

And, as the break-up of Imron's small band of about 150 followers shows, the security forces have generally been successful in infiltrating and reducing the effectiveness of those small groups of Muslim extremists which do exist.

In Indonesia, orthodox Islam is a minority religion, accounting for perhaps 20 per cent of the country's population. But even these adherents remain fragmented and divided, not only on doctrinal grounds, but also ethnically and geographically.

Unlike Iran, Indonesia's Muslims are Sunni rather than Shi'a and the Indonesian variant does not have the Ayatollah system which proved such a powerful means of building up leading opposition figures in Iran. There is no outstanding leader or institution that can claim the loyalty of Indonesia's orthodox Muslim community and speak authoritatively on its behalf.

In Indonesia, Parliament is powerless and democracy little more than a useful charade, but nevertheless President Suharto's government, unlike that of the former Shah of Iran, does respond to criticism and seems aware of the so-

cial, political and economic forces in the country.

President Suharto has worked hard to give an impression of consulting the country's religious dignitaries, and has been careful to back down on the rare of occasions when an issue threatened to unite the Islamic community against him.

### Folly

Aware of the charges that the country's modernisation plans have often benefited only a small elite, the government has recently made great play in the country's third five-year economic plan of a new emphasis on distributing the fruit of development more equitably.

At the same time, the new order has done its best to ensure that Muslim politicians are given little chance of uniting the country's 20 million orthodox Muslims against the government.

Since the brief alliance between the army and Islam after the abortive coup of 1965 (when the two groups combined to massacre as many as 550,000 Indonesians suspected of belonging to or supporting the Communist Party) the government has worked hard to keep orthodox Islam weak and divided.

The government does not allow political parties to organise or engage in political activities at village level except during an election. — FT

## SHIFT FROM LOG EXPORTS TO PLYWOOD, SAWN TIMBER

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 8 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] INDONESIA is sacrificing its logging industry in the hope of becoming the world's largest plywood exporter and a major sawn timber supplier.

"We admit that the state foreign exchange revenue from log exports has dropped but we have to bear with it because we want to be a top exporter of plywood," the country's economic architect Prof Widjojo Nitisastro said recently.

Indonesia has to start now on its bid to be a major plywood exporter otherwise it will be running out of logs, added Prof Widjojo who is Coordinator Minister of Economy Finance and Industry.

The plan has proved to be very costly as last year log revenue of US\$1,400 million was slashed by nearly half, and the export volume fell by over 60 per cent to around 6.5 million cubic metres.

The plan has also forced 63 timber firms to close down as they claimed they would be operating at a loss should they switch to plywood and sawn timber.

But the government believes that the plan will eventually materialise. As forestry director General Soedjarwo says,

timber companies will make bigger profits when their plywood mills and saw mills are in operation.

The government's decree cutting log exports heavily is the last step to get the plywood industry plan moving, because many foreign log companies have ignored the government's appeal to set up timber processing plants, he said.

"We know that the present situation can be seen as a setback but in the long run it will be a big leap forward," he added.

Timber's position as the country's second biggest foreign exchange source after oil has been taken over by liquefied natural gas (LNG) which earned over \$2,400 million last year.

An official of the Indonesian Plywood Industries Association has predicted that the plan to be the world's top plywood exporter and a major sawn timber supplier will begin to make an impact from next year exports increased by nearly 90 per cent last year over the previous year when the volume was only around 300,000 cubic metres.

The government can understand that many log companies have preferred to close down rather

than to switch to plywood or sawn timber industries.

These firms have, in effect, enjoyed a lot of profits for many years in the past and the government regards it as natural that they want to try to maintain these profits.

However, forestry authorities have charged that many companies had ignored their obligation of replanting during their concession period.

With the plywood switch, Indonesia hopes to replace South Korea and Taiwan as the two top plywood suppliers.

Indonesia, probably the last remaining source of sizeable quantities of tropical hardwoods in the world, has set temporary targets of sawn timber and plywood exports and production for this year and 1983.

Based on the target Indonesia is expected to export up to 1.5 million cubic metres of plywood this year.

Sawn timber production this year is set around six million cubic metres of which one-third will be for exports, and next year's production is estimated to increase by 30 per cent and exports to rise by 25 per cent. — AFP



## EDITORIAL HITS SIHANOUK ON PAST TIES WITH DK

Paris MOULKHMER in French Jan 82 pp 2-3

[Editorial: "Why the Double Standard?"]

[Text] In the December 1981 issue of his "Bulletin Mensuel de Documentation," Norodom Sihanouk, former chief of state of Democratic Kampuchea and former high counselor to the Khmers Rouges until the beginning of 1979, complains bitterly of being forgotten by the international press, which on the whole has had only praise for Son Sann, now elected head of the National Liberation Front of the Khmer People (FNLPK). He squeals like a stuck pig, taking on all journalists (men and women) throughout the world, whom he blames for this flagrant injustice, for they prefer to him a man who, in the time of his splendor, was but one of his obscure prime ministers but who, at the time being, has committed the wrong, despite his opposition, of trying to free his country from the yoke of the North Vietnamese occupying troops. For having been guilty of such lunacy, Son Sann is labeled as a Cambodian De Gaulle!

Naturally, the latter has nothing to be reproached for, although his importance may have been exaggerated by that vile press! But was there any reason for him to be covered with laurels, when the press had not a word to say about the spectacular action of Norodom Sihanouk?

After all, was it not he, Norodom Sihanouk, who was so totally duped by his good friends in Peking, who, claiming to make an unconditional gift to the Khmer people of a few 60-year-old plants, asked him, in exchange, to give all his aid to the North Vietnamese troops, then fighting the American expeditionary corps in South Vietnam? Accepting these so-called unconditional gifts, he made his country the sanctuary for the foreign troops, allowing them to set up logistics bases within the national territory and having arms and munitions transported across Cambodia to those foreign troops, arms and munitions supplied by his good friends in Peking, in violation of Khmer neutrality.

Was it not also he, Norodom Sihanouk, who, duped by his good friends in North Vietnam, concluded a strange trading agreement with them in order to deliver products from Cambodia to them, without obtaining anything in exchange from their country?

Was it not also he, Norodom Sihanouk, who, instead of denouncing the intolerable exactions committed by the foreign troops against the rebel native people, limited himself to condemning his parliament, which sprang to their defense, thereby bringing the National Assembly and the Council of the Kingdom, meeting in congress and presided over by In Tam, to vote spontaneously and unanimously for his removal as chief of state?

Was it not also he, Norodom Sihanouk, who, in order to gain revenge for his ouster, did not hesitate to have his own country attacked by the North Vietnamese troops and what is more, to rally the camp of the Khmers Rouges, supported in their race for power by those very troops?

And finally, is it not he, Norodom Sihanouk, who, together with the beastly Khmers Rouges who are responsible for the tragedy of the Cambodian people, now continues to play into the hands of the enemy troops, either by opposing the national resistance fight against the occupier or by obstructing diplomatic and political attempts by nations enamored of peace, freedom and justice to help our country regain its national independence, finally agreeing to pretend to wage the same fight only because of the pressure of public opinion?

These are the main feats that can be marked up by Norodom Sihanouk, feats that well deserve to be pointed up by the international press.

In this arena, Son Sann is definitely outstripped by his former boss.

But if, in spite of himself, he is taken for the Cambodian De Gaulle for the simple reason that he was fool enough to try to liberate his country, could one not for good measure take Norodom Sihanouk for the Khmer Petain, for like the French marshal who collaborated with Adolph Hitler, Norodom Sihanouk collaborated with his great friend Pham Van Dong?

It would therefore be unjust to systematically forget Sihanouk, who, as one can see, has spectacular deeds to his credit, when his former prime minister, Son Sann, who has none, is covered with laurels by that wicked international press! It is as if it were trying to "destroy" that former chief of state of the Khmers Rouges!

Indeed, why the double standard?

11,464

CSO: 4200/23

## PONCHAUD ALLEGES THAI, DK MISTREATMENT OF REFUGEES

Paris AVENIR CAMBODGE in French Jan 82 pp 4-7

[Article by Francois Ponchaud, author of "Cambodge Annee Zero," Editions Julliard: "One Scandal May Hide Another"]

[Text] Being in charge of refugees attracts the sympathy of sensitive souls, as we have just seen with the awarding of the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Perhaps the members of the jury were impressed by reports unknown to us concerning the activity of the HCR in Africa or Europe. Did they know that their decision would be viewed as as scandalous as the presentation of the same prize to Kissinger and Duc Tho in 1973? Did they know that in Thailand, the UNHCR serves more as a moral and economic guarantee — with its foreign exchange receipts — for the Thai Government than as effective protection for the refugees? That for various reasons the Thai Army uses indescribable brutality in its treatment of refugees can perhaps be understood, but that an international organization in charge of refugee protection should remain silent about such conduct is scandalous, if not absolutely monstrous. A few members of the UNHCR pay personally for denouncing abuses and saving human lives, as in the case of the American who saved many Vietnamese women and girls who had fallen into the hands of pirates on Kra Island, but most UN officials are only there for career reasons and in order to administer the Commission.

## Obtaining Justice

And yet, one could cite countless cases of refugees who are beaten and tortured under the very eyes of these international officials: the five children who in July rolled on the ground in pain in front of the building of the field officer of Khao I Dang after being kicked in the groin by Thai soldiers; the boys and girls who were stripped naked and left in the sun for hours; the women who went in February to file a complain with the field officer of Khao I Dang and who was held for 2 days, during which her husband was killed, and so on. The Khao I Dang refugees are making a desperate appeal to "competent organizations" to "help them obtain justice."

## Document

Statement by Cambodian refugees at Khao I Dang in Thailand, aimed at seeking justice and freedom in their life as refugees:

Every day, Khmer refugees die from mistreatment or are shot by Thai soldiers in camp and prisons. We are asking the competent international organization to help us obtain justice.

We wish to report cases of misconduct on the part of Thai soldiers with respect to Cambodian refugees: 1 — Concerning the food supply, every refugee should receive every week: 7 cans of uncooked rice (standard of measure - condensed milk can); 30 grams of chicken; 3 branches of Convolvulus; 1/2 cabbage; 2 small salted fish; 1 small fresh mackerel (spoiled when given to us); 200 grams of salt per person; 1/2 liter of peanut oil per person; 1/2 liter of brine; 300 grams of garlic per family; charcoal once a week, even though the amount given is only enough for two meals; 20 liters of water a day; no oil to use in lamps at night, no sugar. If there are several in a family, the ration is reduced.

2 — Black market resulting from shortages: Refugees have to sneak out of the camp to go to neighboring Thai villages. Prices are as follows: 1 chicken, 300 bath; 1 egg, 6 bath; 1 kilogram of sugar, 40 to 60 bath; 1 sarong, 90 to 100 bath; cloth, 80 to 100 bath; 20 kilograms of charcoal, 160 to 180 bath.

3 — Goods purchased can be sold or traded but such trading is risky. If the Thai soldiers arrive in time, they take everything, beating us and putting us in prison.

4 — Before coming into the camp, adult women or girls and pregnant girls endure the brutality of the Thai soldiers or pirates, who take everything away from them and mistreat them physically and sexually. They steal their clothing and leave them half dead.

5 — Some Khmer refugees are taken and left with the Khmers Rouges, who kill them. One or two manage to flee and sneak into the camp, avoiding the ambushes of the Thais, who tell them to go to the Cambodian border.

6 — Refugees wishing to leave to make purchases must pay the Thai soldiers 100 bath when they leave and 100 bath when they return. Sometimes when one has paid and shot at when one returns. Some have their arms or legs broken, some are killed and have their goods stolen, some are caught and put in prison, where they have their heads shaved and beaten on the head with bottles several times a day. Some leave prison spitting blood and die.

7 — Those killed by the Thai soldiers when leaving to make purchases number in the hundreds each month, two to three a day. At 0125 hours on 9 May 1981, a group of five refugees had paid the soldiers so they could leave to make purchases. They were questioned upon their returned, put into rows and shot by the soldiers. Three were killed, one had his leg broken and fled with another. The first killed was \* (asterisks by AVENIR CAMBODGE to conceal names and places which the authors fear might alarm the families of the missing), 15. His father, \*, 47 years old, living in section \*, group \*. The second killed was \*, also 15 years old, whose father, 51, lives in section \*, group \*. The bodies were put into bags and buried at the foot of the hill (many persons are buried at the foot of that hill).

8 — \*\*\*

9 -- A large part of the packages, letters and money orders sent by mail never arrive.

10 -- There are threats preventing us from studying foreign languages. When Thai soldiers catch anyone, they beat both teachers and students, imprisoning students for 7 days and teachers for 3 months.

11 -- If a refugee sneaking into the camp encounters Thai soldiers, he is beaten, sometimes to death. At 9:00 in the evening on 30 July 1981, Thai soldiers caught a pregnant woman along the wall of old section 5. They beat her until she was unconscious, then threw her into a truck to take her to prison.

12 -- Blood donations are required once a month. Of a group of 100 persons, 4 are taken and must give a half liter of blood without any compensation in food.

13 -- Refugees who work for foreigners (various organizations) are given no wages in money, but only some food.

As we have reported herein, the misfortunes of the Khmer refugees make them prisoners of war. Unable to endure this oppression and losing hope because of their suffering, some refugees decide to go back to the Cambodian border to live.

We are making a solemn appeal to the competent international organizations to help us obtain justice and the right of freedom for the Khmer refugees who suffer the mistreatment and even death every day at the hands of the Thai soldiers.

Khao I Dang, 31 July 1981

The refugees have the right to food and to receive news and money from their people. Since the beginning of 1981, everything possible has been done to make their lives impossible and make them return home. That is perhaps the only valid, realistic policy, but then the UNHCR should take measures to ensure effective protection of refugees once home. Then the UNHCR could receive the Nobel Peace Prize without shame.

11,464  
CSO: 4200/23



## CENTRALIZED ECONOMIC PLANNING STRESSED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 8 Dec 81 p 3

['Things We Ought to Know' Column]

[Excerpt] In the past 4 years of reconstruction and socialist reform in our country the economic situation has had a rapid change from that of a colonialist economy to an economically independent nation, from a poverty stricken, backward country to one advancing economically and socially. The people are independent in their livelihood. Another difference is the political change, like a leap forward, from semi-colonial feudalism to independence, democracy, and building their own socialist economy, without going through expansion of the capitalist system. This is an abrupt, historical change. According to the direction of expanding the national economy, the 4th Plenum of the Party Central Committee divided the economy into two parts, the central economy and the local economy. The central economy has the function of guidance and supplying the technical needs and necessary materials for the local economy. The local economy has the function of implementing the plans that are in unity with the central government, depending on local conditions. The division and control of the economy proceed under the leadership of the party with the government in control.

9615

CSO: 4206/18

# FOREST SIZE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT DISCUSSED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 11, 12 Nov 81

['Things We Ought To Know' Column]

[11 Nov 81 p 3]

[Excerptps] 1. Value of Forest

Forests are one of the several strong features in the economy of our country. Our forest area is immense, covering 15 million hectares, equal to 67 percent of the total area. Because our climate is tropical these forests are thick jungle. There are many kinds of excellent timber, valuable for all branches of the economy, such as construction, coal mining, and chemical processes. It is beneficial for communications and other industries. Besides, it is a very valuable export commodity which brings a fine income to the nation, representing 37 percent of total exports.

After liberation the party and state issued a policy on forests. The most important tasks were to protect the forests, prevent forest fires, stop the destruction of forests, and prevent haphazard exploitation of the forests. It is the responsibility of all of us, to try to limit the clearing of land for fields, by turning from shifting cultivation to wet rice farming in places that have the proper conditions, to rotate crops, and to practice deep cultivation. The state must enforce a forest protection law and teach the people to respect the law strictly. They must share the care for the forests. The central administration has direct responsibility for large forest areas which must establish exploitation on a large scale or joint exploitation with foreign countries.

The province has direct control for a forest area of ordinary size, for exploitation with no high technology. Other forest areas are assigned to agricultural cooperatives operating as a state enterprise, where they protect, maintain, and plant trees in reforestation, and exploit the timber according to state regulations, including agriculture and livestock raising, combining these with the forestry enterprise. They must work in each district, taking the district as the base, and follow the plans of the district and province.

[12 Nov 81 p 3]

[Excerpt] In the vigorous exploitation and processing of timber and the division of responsibility, as in Champassak, Savannakhet, and Vientiane, there is cooperation with all neighboring nations through foreign loans to buy equipment. We exploit this ourselves, with timber signing contracts with various companies of the foreign nations, under the condition that those companies must supply the components for us, as is done in Champassak. They comply with the policy and reform the capitalists engaged in the forestry enterprise, in Vientiane. (The capitalists still conduct this business, transport, and mill the lumber, but the state has the monopoly on wood exports.)

9615

CSO: 4206/18

FOOD TO BE EXPORTED, INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Dec 81 p 3

['Things We Ought to Know' Column]

[Excerpt] Agriculture

Most significant is the activity in irrigation construction in every province, creating a firm base for agricultural production. The movement toward agricultural cooperatives has flourished throughout the nation and now has reached 1,800 sites. Some cantons and some districts have basically completed this transformation to agricultural cooperatives. Especially significant was the attempt to mobilize the mountain people who formerly farmed only dry fields, destroying the nation's resources, to turn to wet rice cultivation or make their living on the plain. This reduced the area of shifting cultivation. In 1977 the rice harvest was 850,000 tons compared to 1967 when it was only 650,000 tons. The six provinces of the south are the abundant food producing areas and can ship to large town markets in the north. They also export products. Concerning this expansion of agriculture our nation has many favorable natural conditions such as a large area of fertile soil and a plentiful system of rivers and streams to produce energy.

Small industrial and craft factories have expanded, for example, rattan articles, basket weaving, carving, embroidery, and others. However, the industry is still weak. We have to depend on foreign products for the daily necessities of our people. But we have strong faith in the bright future of the nation, since we have many resources, like water power for production of electricity, coal mines, iron mines. Laos has all kinds of minerals needed in industry for smelting and the production of machinery.

9615

CSO: 4206/18

PARENTS URGED NOT TO LET CHILDREN WATCH THAI TV

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 8 Dec 81 p 2

['Conversations with the Editor' Column]

[Excerpt] [Question] Does TV cause ideological damage to children, young people, and adults? If the children watch TV, how will their studies be affected and how will youth advance toward socialism?

[Answer] TV will not be detrimental to the ideology of the masses. It is the TV programs that are broadcast. If the programs that are not good are disseminated, they do bring deterioration to the people's ideology, especially affecting children and youth. In order to solve this problem, it is necessary to first of all select proper programs before broadcasting them on TV. Especially now, the problem is that we ought not let children and youth or others who are not firm on the party and government policy line, watch Thai TV (or not let them watch at all is better), because many programs are of no benefit for our people, since they serve the political function of the capitalists and weaken the ideology of youth the most.

9615

CSO: 4206/18

LAOS

PLYWOOD MEETS WORLD STANDARDS, EXPORTS PLANNED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 12 Nov 81 pp 1, 4

[Excerpt] Following is the statement of Gniya, the deputy chief of the Board of Directors of the Lao Plywood Factory, to our reporter on the morning of 11 November 1981: "During the past 10 months of 1981 all the comrades, cadre, and workers were able to produce in the performance of their tasks 106,161 sheets of plywood of 15 kinds, with sizes from a thickness of 4 mm to 20 mm."

Gniya said that the factory products were of high quality. When compared with that of foreign countries Lao plywood met world standards. On distribution, Gniya stated that 50 percent of the production was used domestically and 50 percent was exported.

Gniya further commented that this plywood factory, after the capitalists had turned it over to the state officially in 1977, had greatly improved its work, in size and strength, gradually expanding, assuring its political and technical functions in quality and quantity. In the past 4 years from 1977 to 1980 the factory produced a total of 296,726 sheets of plywood to serve society, and 4,935 cubic meters of milled finished lumber, which is a subsidiary product of the factory.

9615

CSO: 4206/18



BAGS BEARING ROYALIST REGIME SYMBOLS CONFISCATED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Dec 81 p 2

['Conversations with the Editor' Column]

[Excerpt] [Question] In the first week of November 1981 a number of teachers at the Pheui Vat Secondary School confiscated students' book bags. I do not know why because the teachers did not admonish the students at all. The pupils' parents objected vigorously.

If the bags bore some symbol contrary to the national character, why are they sold in stores? If it was truly wrong, why are the craft sewing groups producing them.

I hope you will forgive us because we are voicing the objections of the students' parents.

Respectfully,

Le Van Khang

23 November 1981

[Answer] Dear Comrade Le Van Khang,

At first when I read the letter I felt puzzled and scarcely understood, but when I investigated the facts and saw the truth, I answer at once that "The bags that the comrade speaks of are improper in all respects." The symbols on the bags were those of the old rotten regime that we overthrew. VIENTIANE MAI has often said "We cannot waste even one second." But why does such a thing happen? It shows that some people cannot distinguish between friend and enemy. The enemy can infiltrate because we ourselves are careless. This incident of the bags at the same time is a lesson for other reasons. We must work this out together. At first I was not going to answer, then reconsidered judging that you do not see the bag incident in the same way as I do. If you understood, you would not ask for understanding, would not make the accusation.

You ask why, if the picture or symbol on the bags is wrong, the bags were made. This is also hard to understand in Laos. If you see places making

bags like this anywhere, please report it as soon as possible. Then we will commend you again. There is a sincere desire in almost every person to eliminate the remnants of the old regime.

After you understand you will be aware of the public responsibility building the bright new society in our new regime.

9615

CSO: 4206/18

## TIN PRODUCTION TO BE REDUCED 25 PERCENT

## Reduced Dependence on Tin Revenue

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 10 Feb 82 pp 1, 2

[Text]

MALAYSIA is to reduce its production of tin by 15,000 tonnes a year, or by 25 per cent of the current production.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told a Press conference in Kuala Lumpur yesterday that this reduction would take place gradually over a period of time, and "not overnight."

The Prime Minister also touched on the rationale for awarding turnkey contracts for government projects, the offer made to foreigners for adoption of Malaysia's ISA detainees and the lack of playing fields in some schools.

Explaining the rationale for reducing tin production, Dr Mahathir said it was intended to reduce the country's dependence on tin for revenue. "It is in our own national interest and we are not trying to push up prices," he emphasised.

He pointed out that with LNG production

starting early next year, the country will have an additional source of revenue to offset its sacrifice of revenue from tin.

The Prime Minister said he was fully aware of the fact that substitutes were available for tin for several uses. In view of this it was not Malaysia's intention to push up prices of the metal which might cause consumers to look for alternatives.

Any rapid increase in the price of tin could have an impact on other commodities. As such, Malaysia did not want to precipitate an increase in the price but at the same time it did not want to be "held to ransom because of its dependence on tin."

Dr Mahathir pointed out that Malaysia was dependent on tin for export earnings and hence its concern for the price at which it was sold. But the sales took place outside the country where "we have no influence over the price and on buying

and or selling."

"Of late there has been a little bit of lawlessness in the tin market and prices have been depressed or increased without any rhyme or reason. The so-called free market forces are not so free," the Prime Minister pointed out.

The Prime Minister was asked whether Malaysia was the "mystery buyer" involved in supporting the prices of tin through mopping up operations on the London Metal Exchange. His terse reply was: "Why should I answer that?"

When asked if he was denying such involvement, he said there was nothing to deny. "Are you accusing me of manipulating the tin market. I don't even know what tin is," he said.

He added that when the interests of certain groups were threatened, the rules were changed. While he did not specifically mention it, the Prime Minister was ob-

viously referring to the reduction in the penalty for deferring delivery of the metal. It has been reduced from £300 a tonne a day to £120 a tonne a day, thus helping short-sellers whose manipulations had adverse repercussions on the price earlier.

Dr Mahathir pointed out that at the time of shortage of tin — only a short while ago — prices were purposely depressed, and no one complained or did anything to support prices. But now that short-sellers are affected they are being given a helping hand.

While admitting that the proposed reduction in Malaysian tin production was not large in relation to total world output — only about seven per cent — it was a major matter as far as Malaysia was concerned.

The Prime Minister said this reduction would not take place through nationalisation or by

decree but by the government trying to persuade the tin industry to slow down production.

He pointed out that it might be necessary for a number of small operators to get together to cut back production so that the adverse effects on individual units were minimised.

The methods being considered include the non-issuance of new mining licences. With quite a few tin lands approaching exhaustion of deposits, production was set for decline in any case.

At the same time the mines owned by govern-

ment agencies would also be asked to cut down or even asked to produce on a quota basis. "This has been done before and is not something that is impossible," Dr Mahathir added.

The Prime Minister said the cutback was an internal matter and Malaysia would not be discussing it with other producers. "Even if other countries want to increase production, we don't mind," he added.

He emphasised that it was not meant to deprive the world of tin supplies but to protect the country from the vagaries of the tin market.

Besides the cutback,

Malaysia will also propose a common marketing arrangement for producer countries to sell direct to consumers. This would be similar to the government to government marketing of oil bypassing the international oil companies as well as the Rotterdam spot market.

Direct selling, he pointed out, would reduce the role of the London tin market thereby short-circuiting the present system and trading practices which were detrimental to producers' interests. "We have to look after our own interests and not depend on

others," he added.

Referring to the tin producers grouping proposed by Malaysia, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was "doing it with great reluctance." Malaysia, he pointed out, had always emphasised producer-consumer cooperation but this was not forthcoming.

"Malaysia has always been the moderating influence in all international issues including the tin agreement but (its moderating influence) is not having any effect and in fact we are made to suffer more than others," he added.

### Response to U.S. Dumping

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Feb 82 p 24

[Editorial: "Tin: The U.S. Picks A Fight"]

[Text]

IN A commentary on commodities, the *New York Times* prophesies that tin prices are expected to fall just as sharply as they rose as soon as the support buying stops and the fundamentals of supply and demand reassert themselves. The assumption it makes about cause and effect are unexceptionable but the question to ask is what are the fundamentals to which the esteemed newspaper refers.

In a country now obsessed with supply-side economics, it may be assumed that releases from its stockpile of around 3,000 tonnes in the last few weeks is a legitimate exercise of market power regardless of the consequences it has for producer nations dependent on tin for part of their livelihood. The US as the world's largest tin consumer owes, it might be argued, an obligation to itself and to other consumers to hold down prices. If that is how Washington wishes to play it, it follows that it is equally legitimate for producers to do what they can to protect the prices they receive. Why then the indignation over the success of the "mystery buyer" in propping up prices on the London Metal Exchange? The shorts are now squealing, but why should the US administration raise its hands in horror against the verdict of the ultimate arbiter of its own choosing, the marketplace? You can't have your cake and eat it too.

Support buying is not new: It was tried by the so-called Bogota group of Latin American coffee producers and later by West African cocoa exporters led by Nigeria. The *New York Times* reminds that both bids failed, and the producers dropped hundreds of million dollars. The moral is drawn that the LME's mystery buyer, who has allegedly staked over US\$470 million since July, is in for an equally rude shock. But this dire warning misses the fact that the tin market is a different ball game altogether because three neighbouring and like-minded countries in South-

East Asia account for two-thirds of world supplies. The fourth, Bolivia, accounting for another 15 per cent, may not be able to act too forcefully in its present plight but it will certainly not do anything to undermine the other three.

With the most room to manoeuvre among the four on account of its diversified economy, Malaysia took the first step yesterday to counter the US bid to change the demand-supply equation in its favour by dumping tin on the market. In announcing the decision to cut Malaysian production gradually by a quarter, the Prime Minister said that the country is acting on its own and it is up to other producers to decide their own course of action. Statements from Jakarta by Dr Subroto, Minister of Energy and Mines, leave no room for doubt that he wants producers to act in concert to defend their vital interests. Since Indonesia's output comes mostly from public sector mines, there is no doubt about its ability to make a quick response to the Malaysian initiative.

In other words, the *New York Times* may find the scenario it has painted belied by the strength and purposefulness of the producers.

More important, however, than the outcome of the game of wits played on the LME is the impact it will have on other consumers. Since they have no stockpile to fall back upon, they may soon come to question the wisdom of the US in provoking the fight that has now been joined. Tin may yet become another case of the US being too too preoccupied with its self-interest to pay much attention to the wishes of its allies. The issue here is much larger than that of tin: it is whether the US under Mr Reagan has the sensitivity required of it as a world leader. Disjointed Western responses over Poland, and the European dismay over US monetary policies, are pointers that bode ill.

## DRASTIC POLITICAL CHANGES MAY FOLLOW DEATH OF KOIRALA

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 4 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Aditya Man Shrestha]

[Text]

STUDENT unrest has sent new political rumblings across Nepal's campuses and observers here predict a new round of clashes reminiscent of the 1979 student upheaval.

There have been no new skirmishes between the leftist All-Nepal Students Federation (ANSF) and the rival Nepal Student Union (NSU) since their bloody clashes last November. But fears have been expressed that the present calm could only be lull before the storm.

The present tension in the campuses is ominously reminiscent of the April 1979 student agitation that finally led to the downfall of the Government of former Prime Minister Bista.

Only this time the situation may be exacerbated when former Prime Minister B.P. Koirala dies. The deposed leftist Premier has been a moderating influence on his party whose top leadership is made up of radicals. Mr Koirala is suffering from lung cancer and doctors have given him only six months to live.

### Bloody clashes

When he dies, the leadership of the Nepali Congress Party, which he led for the last 30 years, is

expected to pass to extremists who are openly opposed to reconciliation with moderate political forces.

The 1979 political upheaval was triggered by the execution of the late Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Convinced that it was only a passing fury, the Bista Government did not do much to quell the uprising.

In the present situation, history may be repeating itself. Prime Minister S.B. Thapa has done little to defuse the simmering unrest, apparently believing that the November clashes were isolated cases that will never recur.

But it could be a sad mistake. The 1979 upheaval took a turn for the worse when leftist and rightist student groups were locked in bloody clashes, and the final object of their fury was the Government of Premier Bista.

In last November's clashes in Biratnagar, Nepal's second largest industrial town, the same protagonists started the mayhem. One Marxist student died in the fighting.

The situation eased when local authorities declared a state of siege in Biratnagar, but tension is mounting. Despite the emergency measures

imposed by the local authorities to quell further trouble, the ANSF staged a big protest march amid shrill demands or revenge against the NSU.

In retaliation, the NSU organised a massive student rally in Kathmandu. The NSU suffered a major defeat in last October's student union elections, but judging from the crowd it drew to the rally, it has lost little of its penchant for agitation.

Predictably, the issues are clouded. The ANSF has accused NSU of being in cahoots with the Thapa Government, but the NSU is using exactly the same line against its rival.

Both obviously detest the Thapa Government. This makes it the more likely that in the event of another round of campus bloodbath, the Thapa administration may be among the biggest victims.

The NSU is a student wing of the banned Nepali Congress Party of Mr Koirala. Although the former Premier had led the anti-monarchical movement in Nepal, he has shown a more conciliatory attitude toward King Birendra since his release from jail in 1979.

The leftists had rejected the result of referendum favouring the monarchy-patronised panchayat (village coun-



oil) system, but Mr Koirala deserted his followers by stating that he was bowing to the people's mandate.

To the chagrin of the communists, Mr Koirala and his partymen boycotted the national election held last May, but did not disavow any move to disrupt the political exercise as suggested by leftist elements of his party.

### Boycott

Mr Koirala's change of attitude towards the monarchy, which he fervently abhorred in the past, was brought about by what he perceives as India's threat to Nepal's sovereignty. He has, in fact, pleaded with the King to join forces with his party to thwart the alleged Indian threat.

But the Royal Palace has turned deaf ear to Mr Koirala's pleas. The Royal Palace has neither forgotten nor forgiven him for his anti-monarchical activities. He is still regarded as the most dangerous threat to the throne.

Painfully aware of his impending death, Mr Koirala is reportedly trying to effect a smooth transition of his party's leadership. The odds-on favourite to assume the party's presidency is Ganesh Man Singh, a political firebrand, while Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, a wellknown radical, is expected to become executive president of the party.

Mr Koirala's extremist brother, Tarini Prasad Koirala, is being tipped for party secretary general.

Although the Royal Palace remains wary of Mr Koirala's intentions, the former Prime Minister's death would be a great loss to the King. While it is true that the panchayati followers have made short-term political gains out of the continuing confrontation between the communists and the democrats, Mr Koirala's death would remove an influential mod-

erating influence on the leftist radicals, who are avowedly anti-monarchy.

Observers here point out that any change in the triangular political equation among the royalists, democrats and the communists after the death of Mr Koirala could only damage the royalists.

Anticipations here are that the post-Koirala politics would be a convulsive one. Such a situation would put a great strain on the Nepalese Government regardless of who heads it and pose a challenge to the monarchy itself.

Another source of official concern is the likelihood of foreign interference in Nepalese internal affairs when Mr Koirala dies. India and China, the most dominant foreign influence in Nepal, have so far refrained from overt interference in the present tension in the country.

Their "neutral" position in the current squabble, the referendum and last year's election has boosted the position of the King.

### Strain on govt

But how long they will maintain their "hands off" policy in Nepal's internal affairs remains a matter of speculation. Drastic changes in the political situation of the country after Mr Koirala dies could open the floodgates to foreign intervention by the two countries eager to preserve their influence in Nepal.

Political observers here recall that India played an active role in the ouster of the Ranas which led to the introduction of popular government in 1951.

Indian pressures have been counterbalanced by Chinese influence. But which way will the political wind blow after the expected struggle among the three political forces, nobody can say for sure.

— Depthnews Asia



## NEED FOR TRANSFER OF POWER STRESSED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 34

[Text] Even now it is the Majlis-i-Shoora that has become the target of the politicians, although its Chairman, Khwaja Safdar, says that the members of the nominated Shoora have displayed freedom of thought to a greater extent than any elected Assembly and have discussed national affairs. On the other hand, according to a report from Karachi, the Karachi Corporation has unanimously adopted a resolution against the Shoora, denouncing the Federal Councillors and urging the Head of the State to throw rotten eggs and petrified fish out of the Shoora, because the (FA) Councillors were interfering in its (Corporation's) work. In the session, one member described the Shoora as a burden on the national exchequer and another member said that the Shoora had not been chosen by the people but by FIA, CIA and the police. This resolution of the country's biggest municipality about the Majlis-i-Shoora merits attention also because the Corporation is an elected body while the Shoora members have been nominated. It is possible to gauge from this the public attitude towards the nominated bodies.

As for the statement of the Head of State that the purpose of Shoora's establishment is to find a way for transfer of power in accordance with a commonly understood democratic process, in the light of this viewpoint the Shoora's field of activity is restricted. As regards a commonly accepted democratic process, what else than a general election can it be? If the Shoora confines itself to this field of action and only attends to the method of transfer of power, we think the politicians also will cooperate with it because the most important question today is that of transfer of power. At the same time the politicians themselves will have to prove that there is no dearth of political leadership in the country.--MAGHRABI PAKISTAN, Feb 11.

CSO: 4220/286

POLICY ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES QUESTIONED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 7

[From "Between the Lines" column: "Point-Counterpoint"]

[Text] A variety of proposals formulated by defunct political parties--and summarized in four-point, five-point or eight-point plans--have been bandied about for many weeks. Now all these points are sought to be demolished with one counterpoint--that the multiple bans on political functioning remain fully in force.

This was demonstrated in plain, categorical terms immediately after last week's Cabinet meeting. Earlier, the CMLA-President had revealed that the crucial issue was to be considered by this body, raising the faint hope that such reconsideration could well mean that, following the creation of a Federal (Advisory) Council and the revival of some sort of a political process, those not nominated either to the Cabinet or the Council would also be allowed the privilege to speak out freely and without any restraints on national issues. This was not to be. The Information Secretary explained that there had been no change in Government policy; and he clarified that political activities are still banned, that political parties do not exist, and that Press reports on such matters were in contravention of the law.

Why?

No explanation was given for the decision to maintain the present anomalous situation. It was said merely that the relevant Martial Law Regulations remain in force, and that their violation by political parties or the Press could always evoke penal action, even though hitherto Authority had been lax in doing so. Interestingly, the section of the Press recently freed from the blanket of pre-censorship was advised not to follow the example of political leaders when they acted in breach of the law. To refer to MLRs 48 and 49 as a reason for the continuing bans is merely to beg the question. Surely, like other such laws, these two Regulations can be repealed or amended with the same speed with which they were imposed. What everybody wants to know is: why not?

While official spokesmen and members of the Federal Cabinet or the Council have not yet presented any rational argument to justify the retention of the bans, some newspapers have written in favour of maintaining the status quo and have said that to allow a free-for-all political debate would create

further chaos and confusion, that it would allow elements they think are not wedded to Pakistan's ideology, or are considered unpatriotic by the authors, to wean away the people from the strait and narrow path. Such waffling cannot be taken seriously, because gentlemen of this ilk would have written at length ineloquent praise of Government decision if it had been contrary to the one taken. In any case, their posture is seemingly determined by a lack of confidence in the cause they preach, a congenital inferiority complex, an inability to make out a case, and what is more serious, by a lack of faith in the people.

How?

Then, it has been said that no political party in Pakistan has a programme which fulfils national needs and answers national aspirations--although judgment on this should really come from the people--; and also that the aging politicians have failed the people and--like Pakistan's cricket team--young blood is required. But how can political parties evolve adequate programmes if they are not allowed to meet openly and discuss political issues/ How will new blood be introduced into the realm of politics if political functioning remains barred? And is it not obvious that political confusion and chaos are likely to be compounded by the existing hiatus.

Presumably, the whole matter has not been given proper attention by the Cabinet, and those ensconced in positions of privilege and influence have decided hurriedly to vote, for safety, in favour of preserving the status quo. If they could be persuaded to view the issue in its proper perspective, they would realize that the present restrictions cannot do any good and that they must be lifted, in stages if necessary but without unnecessary delay, so that the country can be guided back to normalcy.

CSO: 4220/286

# POLITICAL BAN, OTHER ISSUES EXAMINED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 10

[Text] Leaders of the different defunct political parties have expressed their disappointment over the Government decision to continue the ban on political activities.

On Feb. 10, the Federal Cabinet announced that there should be no change in the Government policy regarding political activity in the country. Briefing newsmen after the Cabinet meeting, Information Secretary Maj.-Gen Mujibur Rehman said that Martial Law Regulations 48 and 49, which banned political activities and its coverage in the Press, respectively, were still in force and any violation of these could be taken note of.

## Ministers Worried

Commenting on the decision, Pir Sahib Pagara claimed that the Ministers forced Gen Ziaul Haq to continue the restrictions on political activity, "because if this ban goes the Ministers will be exposed."

Pir Pagara said that an impression about the lifting of the ban was created by the CNLA-President himself, but after strong opposition from his Cabinet he decided to continue the curbs on political activities.

The President of the defunct JUP, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, said this (decision) had disappointed the people. "The continuous ban on political activities will encourage underground subversive activities," he added.

Maulana Noorani said that any further delay in holding polls would be harmful for the country. He demanded immediate revival of political activities, announcement of elections, and release of all political leaders.

There was no justification for continuing curbs on political activity as the situation was most congenial to lifting of such restrictions, Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani, a leader of the defunct PPP, said in Karachi.

He said that his party did not have high hopes or expectations from the present Government regarding lifting of restrictions on political activities. However, it would have been in the national interest if these restrictions had been lifted.

Sardar Sherbaz Mazari, chief of the defunct NDP, said after this decision all defunct political parties should reconsider their strategies. Those parties that had high expectations from the present Government, Mr Mazari said, should learn a lesson from it. It was time for them to cooperate with other parties for the restoration of democracy and the 1973 Constitution, he added.

The defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal, JUI and Jamaat-i-Islami also criticised the decision to continue the ban on political activities in the country.

#### Gen. Zia's objectives

On Sunday, the CMLA-President, Gen. Mohammad Ziaul Haq, talking to newsmen in Islamabad, said he would take the nation into confidence about the reasons for continuing the ban on political activity in a broadcast to the nation. He said he had three or four objectives in mind. "One was to introduce sanity into the political process," Gen Zia claimed.

Gen Zia said some politicians were making statements which gave an impression that elections were round the corner. "They are trying to create an atmosphere of uncertainty. Politics does not mean making statements. Conditions at present are not ripe for general elections," the CMLA-President asserted.

#### The Ministers say

"General elections are now only a matter of months," said Federal Information Minister Raja Zafarul Haq, in an interview with a Lahore daily some days back.

He elaborated that "elections will be held under a new Islamic democratic structure for which the Government will soon submit a constitution formula before the Majlis-i-Shoora."

On Friday, Ghulam Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Labour, Wazirabad, said: "Elections at this juncture will complicate the problems instead of solving them."

He said political activities should remain banned under the existing circumstances "as it is in the interest of the country, people and Government."

The Minister said that those who were raising the slogan of election wanted to seize power while the circumstances were not suitable for general elections.

Earlier this month, the Chairman of the Majlis-i-Shoora, Khawaja Safdar, in several statements, pleaded that general elections could not be delayed for too long and that the council would make way for the restoration of democracy.

CSO: 4220/286



BAN CALLED 'INAPPROPRIATE AND INCORRECT'

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 34

[Text] The Federal Cabinet's decision to retain the ban on political activities is not cent per cent unexpected. But in view of "a kind of political process having begun," consequent upon the establishment of the Federal Council, to which President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq had himself referred, this decision does not seem to be wholly correct and appropriate, because the reaction to long and indefinite suspension and state of inertia can only be in the form of unhappiness and dissatisfaction. This ban was imposed about two and a half years ago--one month before the general elections scheduled for November 1979 were postponed. And the longer this situation is maintained the deeper will the colour of unhappiness and disappointment over it become.

Looking optimistically at the situation prevailing for the last few months, one can say that it is perhaps the wish of men in authority that the process of making the existing state of affairs, that is, there is politics and there is not, tolerable will be continued. But this way the demands of political action have never been met, nor can be met. Political leaders do get together and some glimpses of their way of thinking and expressions and observations also become public. But when one refers to permission and freedom for political action, it does not mean gossiping in a drawing room or at a feast or ceremony but an opportunity for mass contact and party organisation which, in our present circumstances, is a basic requirement of preparation for elections.--NAWA-I-WAQT, Feb. 12.

CSO: 4220/286



## FEDERAL COUNCIL SEEN AS VEHICLE FOR VOICING PUBLIC'S SENTIMENTS

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 16 Feb 82 p 22

[Article by Mohammad Ziauddin]

[Text] **IS THE** military government of Pakistan taking a cautious step back to the barracks?

President Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq's decision to create a 350-man Parliament has fuelled speculations that the Pakistani strongman may be preparing the political groundwork for the revival of the Parliamentary democracy crashed in the military takeover of the government in 1977.

But most Pakistani intellectuals and political leaders are unconvinced that the President's action represented a significant loosening of the military rule.

Their reading of the presidential decision is that Mr Zia desires to create a broader-based leadership coalition that should be held responsible for managing the country's affairs without actually sharing with them the more delicate decisions of government.

On the other hand, several intellectuals view the creation of the Federal Council as a step in the right direction toward the eventual restoration of democracy in the country.

They claim that if the nation is to get back on the democratic track it will need a period of transition to adjust to new political developments.

The Federal Council is a purely advisory body, but it has gained widespread acceptability in

this predominantly Muslim society which holds in reverence almost everything associated with the rule of the early Caliphs of which the council was patterned after.

The first session of this non-elected Parliament was called by President Zia on Jan. 11. It was devoted to foreign relations, the internal situation and four draft laws on the establishment of Qazi courts, and the appointment of Ombudsman at the federal level. As of that date, 83 members were still to be appointed.

Although its members were only appointed, the Council has acquired a representative character because its membership was selected from a cross-section of the population.

The Council membership includes 183 former politicians, 22 religious leaders, 7 journalists, 6 labour leaders, 35 specialists from the various fields of endeavour, 13 women and 11 representatives from the minority religious organisations.

### Censorship

About 70 the former politicians now in the Federal Council belonged to the Pakistan People's Party of the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, including three ministers from the Bhutto Cabinet and one governor.

The Council has also reached back to days of the old Parliament by adopting the rules and procedures of the National Assembly of 1973.

This is a temporary arrangement pending the formulation of the Council's own rules and procedures. Already, the Council has created six committees to deal with matters relating to the holding of sessions.

Council members are allowed to ask questions from the ministers and its proceedings are published in the newspapers without going through censorship. In fact, news censorship, which was imposed on Oct. 16, 1979, was lifted after the Federal Council was formally created, subject to these government guidelines:

■ No material prejudicial to Islam and the Islamic Ideology should be published.

■ No material should be published that could endanger national security.

■ No material should be published that may incite communal or regional prejudices.

■ No material should be published that may affect or undermine the dignity of the armed forces.

President Zia has told the Federal Council, however, that the right to legislate or amend the Constitution rests solely with him as chief martial law administrator.

But in his address at the inauguration, Mr Zia stated: "I would like to have your advice, too, in the sense that you will be empowered to make or amend a law, and to alter or delete a constitutional clause to the extent that you would be able to prepare such legal documents, discuss them at length and send them to me with your recommendations."

Those who conceived of the idea of a Federal Council claim that the body will fill the political vacuum created by the dissolution of the old Parliament and, hopefully, pave the way for the transfer of power from the military to a representative legislature.

One of the Council's major tasks is to act as liaison between the government and the people.

Even Mr Zia's most ardent critics admit that despite its shortcomings, mainly its non-elective status, the Federal Council will serve as a formal forum for expressing people's sentiments. The only question is to what extent Mr Zia will allow honest and fair discussions of government's policies by the Council. — Depthnews Asia

## UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' GRIEVANCES DISCUSSED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 12

[Text] The long-persisting sorry state of affairs at the Punjab University has surfaced again and this time the cause is centenary celebrations.

A week before the centenary celebrations were to begin, the general body of the Punjab University Staff Association (PUASA), in a unanimous resolution, threatened to boycott the celebrations if its demands were not accepted.

Through several resolutions, the general body blamed the Vice-Chancellor for creating grave unrest among the University teachers and strongly condemned his divisive tactics in dealing with the demands of the teachers community.

The demands made by the PUASA included immediate promotion of all eligible teachers/research staff to higher cadres and award of time scale for them, lease of land to members of the Association as decided by the Syndicate 18 months ago, and immediate steps for the long overdue completion of the Syndicate and the Selection Board.

Besides these demands, the PUASA called upon the authorities to withdraw the transfer clause from the University Ordinance and to annul previous actions taken under it. It demanded cancellation of transfers of three prominent and experienced teachers of the University, namely, Dr Habibullah (Chemistry), Prof. Khalid Mehmud and Mr Sajjad Nasir (Political Science)--they were transferred out of Lahore in 1979 under the University Act.

The Association also called upon the Vice-Chancellor "to remove gross anomalies in the recently announced small number of promotions and take steps to confirm those members of the academic community who have been working on a temporary basis for a long time."

The general body, in another resolution, demanded relaxation of the Ph.D. condition for promotion to grades 19 and 20, and of other similar conditions, in hardship cases, as directed by the University Grants Commission and as done in universities other than the Punjab University.

### Frustration

The charter of demands speaks for itself. This is not the first time that the teachers of the University have raised their voice against the administration.

For the last many years, the representative body of teachers have from time to time called for immediate steps to end frustration and discontentment among a large number of highly qualified teachers, but on each occasion the administration not only ignored these demands.

Recently, the President of the Association, Dr Khalid Alvi, in a Press statement, said that the present administration was responsible for creating hurdles in the way of teachers' promotion. Such important bodies as the University Syndicate and the Selection Board had not met for the last 18 months because of, what Dr Khalid called, the administration's delaying tactics.

He alleged that a lion's share of the University budget was being squandered on administrative matters to the detriment of research and education.

Dr Khalid said that a preponderant number of University teachers had been got stuck in grades 17 and 18 in spite of their long tenure of service.

The University teachers demanded a 'running scale system' for promotion like those allowed to the employees in civil service and armed forces.

CSO: 4220/286

## PAKISTAN

### BALUCHISTAN LEADER 'PLAYS MOSCOW'S GAME IN DEMANDING PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY'

Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 26 Jan 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Praisers of Kabul and Moscow"]

[Text] Mir Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo, while expressing his views on internal and external problems facing the country, tried to hatch some new and some old mischief. According to him, the most important internal problem facing the country is that the provinces should be given complete provincial autonomy, and only defense, foreign affairs and currency should be maintained by the central government. He said that a constitution that does not guarantee the integrity of the country by giving the provinces complete autonomy should most appropriately be thrown away. When Mr Bizenjo was asked to comment on the fact that the very constitution that he is asking the people to reject was duly signed by himself, he replied that at that time the country had already disintegrated and that if they were to quarrel over the constitution, then the remaining parts of Pakistan too would have been in trouble. The incident they were referring to, he said, took place in 1973 and they were now in 1982. During this period, a lot of changes have taken place and in light of these changes we should work out a structure for the constitution that will be satisfactory to the provinces constituting the federation of Pakistan.

The views expressed by Mr Bizenjo on the issue of complete autonomy for provinces, and the incentives underlying those views, are nothing new. He has more or less adopted the tone and arguments put forth by Shaykh Mujibur Rahman. Just as the main reason for the Shaykh's tone and argument was his desire to separate from Pakistan, Mr Bizenjo, too, would like to influence the provinces to adopt the path of separation from the federation of Pakistan on the basis of his slogan for total autonomy. Furthermore Sheykh Mujibur Rahman raised the slogan of provincialism and regionalism at the instigation of India and Russia. Today, the main driving force behind Mr Bizenjo's boldness for raising this mischievous slogan is his loyalty to Moscow and Kabul. The fact that he has been urging recognition of the Karmal government and openly supporting Moscow's point of view that Russian soldiers entered Afghanistan at the request of the legal government in Afghanistan and that they can only be withdrawn from Afghanistan on Babrak Karmal's request is clear proof of his loyalty to Moscow and Kabul.

It is a fact that at the time when the tragedy of separation was appearing on the East Pakistan horizon, Mr Bizenjo and other like-minded people, working in close conjunction with Shaykh Mujibur Rahman, were seeking autonomy for their respective provinces on the basis of the six-point plan. But when Bangladesh came into being as a result of the movement for provincial autonomy, then, at least for the time being, they had to give up their demand for complete autonomy for the provinces. They postponed their plans to a more suitable time and signed the 1973 constitution. Now, with the establishment of Babrak Karmal's government in Kabul and the arrival of Russian soldiers on the northwestern borders of Pakistan, according to Mr Bizenjo the right time has come to press his demands.

Moscow and Kabul are enraged with Pakistan for not recognizing the Karmal government and accepting the presence of Russian soldiers in Afghanistan, and for Pakistan's insistence on the withdrawal of Russian soldiers from Afghanistan and its demand that the people of Afghanistan be given the right to decide their own future. Displeased with Pakistan's stand on these issues, Moscow and Kabul now wish to create disturbances in Pakistan aimed at bringing about regional nationalism and autonomy for the provinces. They are using Mr Bizenjo as an instrument to attain their goal. But the tactics used by Moscow and Delhi back in 1971, which succeeded in dividing Pakistan in two, cannot be effective in 1982 for the rest of the country.

First, Mr Bizenjo and the rest of his like-minded colleagues are so small in number that they can be counted on the tips of one's fingers. Second, the overwhelming majority of the people in the four provinces is now fully aware of the dangers concealed in the slogans for complete provincial autonomy. Russian activities in Afghanistan are aimed at destroying the Islamic identity of the Afghan people. If these actions are successful, the next goal of communist Russia will certainly be Pakistan. This is why the people of Pakistan would reject the efforts of elements working to disrupt Pakistan as agents of Moscow and Kabul. As far as Mr Bizenjo and his colleagues are concerned, they do not have the right to represent even Baluchistan, because their sphere of influence is limited to two or three districts of Baluchistan, and even in these districts their influence is restricted mainly to the tribes they represent. If, according to Mr Bizenjo's characteristic logic, Pakistan is made up of four nationalities, then Baluchistan itself consists of many nationalities. Under the circumstances, would Mr Bizenjo be prepared to transfer the power he is demanding for Baluchistan in the form of autonomy to the various nationalities inside Baluchistan? Would this not in turn lead to a process of division within Baluchistan itself?

In our view, the slogans of nationalism and provincial autonomy have been raised with the specific purpose of creating limitless mischief. In this era it is not possible to imagine the existence of a federation that has responsibility for only defense, foreign affairs and currency. In the Soviet Union, too, the so-called autonomous Soviet republics are under total Soviet domination. Not only that, even the communist countries of Eastern Europe are completely dominated by Russia, and Russia is not prepared to loosen its grip over them. Under these circumstances, the people of all four provinces in Pakistan are fully aware of the goals of those who praise and admire Moscow and Kabul like Mr Bizenjo and who have been raising slogans of autonomy for the provinces. The people reject them with utter contempt.

9315

CSO: 4203/59



SOVIET PROPAGANDA AGAINST PAKISTAN

Karachi JANG in Urdu 12 Dec 81 p 3

[Editorial: "Baseless Propaganda Against Pakistan"]

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated that Radio Moscow's accusation that America has expressed interest in using Pakistani air and sea ports, and that the American Secretary of State Alexander Haig will discuss these matters on his proposed visit to Pakistan, is absolutely baseless and is sheer maliciousness. The spokesman said that the sole purpose of these accusations was to give Pakistan a bad name and cause misunderstanding between Pakistan and its friends in the area.

This is not the first time that Pakistan has been accused of being about to hand over its air and sea ports to America. These accusations have been made countless times before, and every time Pakistan has denied them. This time the accusations have been made by such an important and famous means of communication as Radio Moscow, and the sad thing is that the accusation made by such an important source is completely baseless. So what can it be called except maliciousness. The Soviet Union is a great world power. It has innumerable ways to know the truth and to scrutinize world events, so when Radio Moscow spreads baseless propaganda about such a small country as Pakistan, it can have no purpose other than to produce misunderstanding between Pakistan and other countries in the region.

It has been said many times before, and now the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad has once more made it clear that Pakistan will not sacrifice its position of non-alignment for the sake of friendship with America, nor will it allow its close ties with the Third World and the world of Islam to be hurt. Pakistan has always opposed imperialism, and has supported the freedom struggles of oppressed and subjugated nations. The record of the United Nations is proof that, despite renewed ties with America, last week Pakistan vigorously censured the military cooperation between America and Israel. In such a case, how is it possible that Pakistan could hand over its air and sea ports to America.

As the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, America has assured us that she understands very well our non-aligned status, and our ties with the world of Islam. And the international brotherhood is also well aware of the fact that we act strictly according to the principles of non-alignment. Whether it is the matter of the freedom of Namibia, or the racist policy of South Africa, Pakistan

has never hesitated to raise high the voice of right and justice. Just as Pakistan has supported the demand for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan, so she has just as forcefully supported the restoration of the Arab territories under the control of Israel.

All of this propaganda against Pakistan has been started at a time when the American Secretary of State Alexander Haig is about to arrive in Pakistan for a short stay of one day. As it is clear that the central point of the talks between Haig and Agha Shahi will be the Pak-American alliance, which has no connection whatsoever with the use of Pakistani military bases, it is impossible to understand why Radio Moscow has given the American Secretary of State's trip to Pakistan such importance, and why they have spread these kinds of baseless rumors about it when these kinds of high level tours are very common in this area and are never made the target of false propaganda. Two days ago a Soviet delegation made up of high ranking officials visited India, but no neighbor of India's made any kind of propaganda against it, because such actions cause damage to the peace and stability of the region, and the area becomes prey to tension and uneasiness because of misunderstandings between neighboring countries.

Political observers in Islamabad say that some statements in the reviews of Radio Moscow are wrongly attributed to important individuals in some third country so that the accusations may appear to be founded on fact. These observers pointed out another broadcast of Radio Moscow in this regard, in which it was said that the Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao had said in Parliament that Pakistan had agreed to give the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force permission to use Pakistani air and sea ports, when the truth is that the Indian foreign minister made no such speech in Parliament.

Forty years ago the German propagandists had spread the lie that if a lie is told over and over people will believe it, but the world has greatly advanced today. The methods of communication have progressed also, and the rapid means of communication have made the world smaller. So now the reality of truth and falsehood are known quickly and milk and water are easily told apart. In such a situation there is no profit in false propaganda, rather there is shame and remorse. It is our advice to the great powers that instead of using false propaganda they should give attention to the basic ways to remove tension in the area.

0014

CSO: 4203/36

## ARTICLE LAUDS URDU, QUESTIONS CONTINUED USE OF ENGLISH

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 7 Dec 81 pp 19, 20

[Article by Kalim Akhtar: "Is English Necessary?"]

[Text] It is an accepted fact that a country's identity and greatness, or lack of same, are judged by its language. The scholars and educators of a nation always try to make their language rich and cultured in order to represent all spheres of the country's life and make it a model for other countries and languages to emulate.

It is true that the whole world respects Urdu and that it is a great blessing for us. This language has helped bring people living in various places together and has provided us with a medium of expression and communication.

History tells us that nations that neglected their language were wiped out of existence like a wrong word, to make room for other nations and languages. Pakistan is a living example of this phenomenon. For over a century we have been strangers to our language and a foreign language and culture have reigned over us.

It is true that we are independent now and have freedom of speech. We cannot, however, forget that our language is inferior to the one used by our erstwhile rulers. This feeling has been deeply instilled in us by the nation that ruled us. This feeling of the inferiority of our language is like a chronic disease of our personality and psychosis. This is why, when we form or organize our national institutions, we select names and acronyms like WAPDA, DASA, PASSCO and PACO and then feel proud of them. Even though we talk about national character but when we want to name our large projects, we call them by such names as Mangla Dam, Sui Northern Gas Supply Company, Warsak Dam, Tarbela Dam, State Cement and Small Scale Industry Plant. If such foreign names are supplied by the government, the private sector is naturally going to follow with names like Acchara Shopping Center, VIP Stores, Botek Ready Made Producer, Production and Manufacturers and so on. When businessmen are asked why they use these foreign terms and words, they simply ask us to give them equivalent Urdu words that are equally attractive. They can easily translate such words as "company," "brothers," "sons," "merchants" and "made" into Urdu. The English "made in" can be changed into Urdu as "sakhata," the English "plaza" to "aiwan" and "construction company" to "idara-i-tameer." Many such Urdu words have been in use for a long time and the

common people have never had trouble reading or understanding them. In the private sector it is often said that an English name of a company helps it identify its trade and in correspondence with foreign companies. I do not buy that. Developed and industrialized countries like Japan use their own language for conducting international business and correspondence. Similarly, China, Germany, France, Iran and other Arab countries use their own languages. All these countries have their own languages. Japanese and Germans use English for correspondence with other countries but only as a last resort and only with countries where English is the lingua franca. If we use Urdu in our correspondence with those countries they will make arrangements to read and write Urdu just as some countries do in the case of English. The more we use our national language, the more it will be accepted in other countries. Our president, Gen Zia, has already established this precedent by addressing his meetings in other countries and with foreign delegations visiting Pakistan in Urdu. I believe that Urdu is a very broad and beautiful language and we no longer need to apologize for it. We need to expand its sphere of use. We have to train Urdu typists and stenographers. As long as we cannot supply such personnel to the private sector, they will continue to give a cold shoulder to Urdu. It is easy to speak Urdu but there are some problems in writing it and we must find ways to eliminate these problems. We should not use those problems as excuses for avoiding Urdu.

The sad part of this story is that we still believe that English is a great language even though our leaders have deplored its use. Why can't we call a school, a college, a university or a dentist by its Urdu name? English is the bitter relic of English colonialism. English is the symbol of our slavery to another nation. If we reject it now, nobody will drive us out of the company of free nations.

Recently, the use of English in the private sector has increased rapidly. The reason for this increase is said to be the beauty of the English language. The question arises: Do businesses in countries that use their national language fail? In Iran the Persian equivalent of "dry cleaner," "khushk shoi," is used. This is not a strange term for the Iranians. If we advertise our wares in Urdu, more people will be able to understand it. It will also show our patriotism. It is a fact that countries that have preserved their national characters and did not copy other countries blindly have been very successful.

Urdu is considered among the advanced languages in the world and it has all the characteristics of a successful language. When I see signs and neon lights in English I am forced to remember Julius Caesar. When he saw some foreigners petting their pet puppies and monkeys, he exclaimed, "Are the women in their country barren?"

7997

CSO: 4203/34



## BRIEFS

**MUBASHIR BANNED FROM TRAVEL**--Dr Mubashir Hassan, a former Federal Minister, has been served with a notice by the Government putting a ban on his travel abroad. The notice, which was received by Dr Mubashir Hassan at his residence, has been issued under the Exit from Pakistan (Control) Ordinance, 1981, which empowers the Government to prohibit any person or group of persons from proceeding to a destination outside Pakistan, notwithstanding the fact that such a person has valid travel documents, and that the Federal Government is not bound to mention any reason why a certain person shall not leave the country. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 13]

**VETERINARY STUDENTS' DEMANDS**--Students Union of the College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore, has appealed to the authorities to punish the persons who trespassed into the premises of the institution on Feb. 9 and manhandled the students. In a statement issued on Friday, Syed Israr Hussain, President, Imtiaz Ali Chaudhry, Vice-President, and Zafar Raza Naqvi, Joint Secretary of the Union, declared that after the assurance from the Government and the College administration that elements responsible for creating disorder would be punished, the students decided to end boycott of their classes from Saturday. The student leaders strongly condemned the acts of violence and hooliganism by a certain students group and urged the authorities to take stern action against the persons responsible for it. They alleged that on Feb. 9 a group of students belonging to the Islami Jamiat-i-Talaba attacked the officebearers of the Union and seriously injured a final year student, Hassan Suroosh. Declaring that they were not associated with any political group and believed in Islam and Pakistan ideology. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 13]

**PDP LEADER'S RELEASE DEMANDED**--The Joint Secretary of defunct Pakistan Democratic Party (PDP), Javed Khan Swati, has urged the Government to release the PDP chief, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, and withdraw the orders of externment and other restrictions on political leaders. He said that the Press statement issued by NWFP Government barring Nawabzada Nasrullah from entering the province was ridiculous as Mr Nasrullah Khan was already detained in his house in Khangarh, which had been declared a "sub-jail" by the authorities. On Jan 29, the Punjab Government extended Mr Nasrullah's detention for another three months. "In these circumstances, the NWFP and Sind Governments' orders are surprising," Mr Swati added. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 13]

LABOR FRONT DEMANDS--The Mazdoor Ittehad Committee, Sargodha region, has demanded increase in wages and reinstatement of all retrenched mill workers. A demand notice on behalf of 600,000 workers was drawn up. The committee said that if the demands were not accepted the workers would consider further action. A spokesman of the Union said that in Faisalabad alone more than 20,000 workers had been retrenched during the last few months and in all 70,000 workers had lost their jobs in the Sargodha region. He said in these circumstances the workers had submitted an 18-day demand notice to the provincial Government. The notice also included the demand for reinstatement of 600 Kohinoor workers. The notice said lay-off in industrial units should end, there should be no denationalisation and enumerated other demands. [By Ehsan Rana] [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 15]

POLITICAL ACTIVIST A SUSPECT--The Faisalabad police took into custody on Saturday a political activist, Mehboob Khan, as a suspect in the assassination of Chaudhri Zahoor Elahi. The former student leader was produced before the Summary Military Court, Sahiwal, headed by Major Mohammad Iqbal, by two lawyers, Ejaz Athar, Abdul Latif Malik, and his surety. When Mehboob Khan was about to leave the court premises, the Faisalabad police, after showing the warrants, took him into custody in connection with investigations in the Chaudhri Zahoor Elahi case. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Feb 82 p 16]

CSO: 4220/286



## POTENTIAL STRENGTH SEEN IN NEW OPPOSITION PARTY

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 1 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Adlai J. Amor in Cebu City]

[Excerpts]

AT A time when a host of opposition parties are being organised throughout the country, the Social Democratic Party of the Philippines (SDPP) promises to become the strongest rival of the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipuan (KBL or New Society Party).

The new party entered the Philippine political arena almost unnoticed in late December in this city — the traditional bastion of political opposition — some 260 kilometres south of Manila.

The SDPP is the latest opposition group which claims no connection with the United Democratic Opposition (UNIDO), an umbrella group of opposition parties.

Neither is it affiliated with recently formed and still to-be-named merger of oppositionists most of whom were already affiliated with the UNIDO. In fact, SDPP seems to be the only political party which was not invited by the merging groups to join, perhaps because two former ranking government officials — former Information Minister Francisco Tatad and Deputy Information Minister Reuben Canoy — were behind its formation.

This splintered opposition has left no other political alternative for many Filipinos, except the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). Observers say that prior to the merger of the political parties and SDPP's creation, the CPP was

the most effective alternative — complete with an army and an existing government structure.

## Expelled

What gives the SDPP better chances than the other political parties to counter the threat of the CPP and to challenge the KBL is their grassroots organisation, the youthfulness of its members and the fact that it was created not as an anti-Marcos party. It has also adopted the strategy of consolidating its strength in the provinces first before tackling the cities.

"The party is based on ideas, not personalities. It is a national political party which thinks far beyond the era of President Marcos," said Mr Canoy in an exclusive interview with *DepEdNews*.

Although Mr Canoy is not a full SDPP member, he has been instrumental in its creation. Because of laws banning changes in political affiliations, Mr Canoy and two other opposition lawmakers — Mr Tatad and Hilario Davide Jr — have signed a coalition agreement with the SDPP until such time they can formally join it.

Aside from these three, the only other prominent political figure in the party is the former Cebu gubernatorial candidate Andres Corominas who ran under the banner of the Pusyon Bisaya

(Young Turks of the Visayas).

Mr Corominas was elected as interim president, while journalists, farmers, lawyers and a woman leader were elected into the party hierarchy.

Assemblyman Canoy and his colleagues held ten workshops throughout the country since 1981. Many had thought that it was going to lead to the creation of his cherished party, the Philippine Alliance. But it did not prove so.

During the workshops, concerned citizens analysed the conditions in the Philippines. "The consensus was not to change President Marcos but the entire government structure," Mr Canoy said. "Such a change can only be lawful and is a long-term process."

The ideas that slowly filtered out during the workshops — some of which were held in church retreat houses — were oriented more to the social democracy as practised in Europe, especially West Germany.

"Social democracy is the wave of the future," said Mr Canoy.

In a national convention held in a small beach resort near Cebu City last Dec. 19-20, some 90 delegates and observers representing the 13 regions of the Philippines drafted and adopted a declaration of principles, a party constitution and by-laws.

In its five-page declaration

of principles, the Social Democratic Party sees the need for constitutional reform to abolish authoritarianism and reinstate the system of check and balance.

The party believes that it is their duty to build a democratic social order "guaranteed by the inviolability of human rights — (and) the independence of Parliament, the courts and the Press."

With three months, party members hope to have fully organised regional, provincial, town and village chapters to be able to participate in the village elections slated sometime in April.

This election is crucial for the SDPP — and any other political party — because it will test the party's acceptance. More important, it needs to earn at least 10 per cent of the votes in order to qualify as the legal opposition party in the two-party system envisioned by Philippine law.

But even while the local chapters are being organised, the party has activated its Institute of Social and Political Affairs in nearby Cagayan de Oro City which will serve as SDPP's training ground. A party newspaper is expected to be launched soon.

SDPP's choice of Cebu City as its main base of operations is appropriate since it is the most central city in the Philippines — giving direct and cheap access to Manila and Mindanao.

# MNLF ATTACKS DECREASE, GOVERNMENT FORCES WITHDRAWN

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 10 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Mario Baluyot in Manila]

[Text]

**POCKETS** of resistance are virtually all that remains of the nine-year Filipino Muslim secessionist struggle, boosting government hopes that the settlement of the southern Philippines conflict will just be a matter of time, according to official sources here.

Much of the government's optimism is anchored on a recent evaluation by military authorities, who see a "considerable improvement" in law and order in the area last year. The same officials predict that the situation will be further stabilised this year.

## Rebel

In fact, a year-end review by southern and central Mindanao military officials cited an 80 per cent decline in attacks by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in 1981 compared to the previous year, when MNLF rebels killed 119 military officers and men in what is now known as the Pata Island massacre.

These attacks, they said, were also on a much smaller scale and characterised by minor skirmishes, ambushes and occasional grenade attacks primarily intended to keep the MNLF cause alive.

Strengthening the government's favourable assessment of the situation were the withdrawal from the area last year of six military battalions and the lifting of a ban on foreign travellers as a result of the

improved situation.

The southern military command chief, Gen Delfin Castro, said that three or four more battalions would be taken out this year to further reduce the military force which, at one time, rose to more than 35 operating battalions at the height of the conflict.

In spite of the apparent government progress in winning some of the rebel ranks to its side — military records cited 5,000 as of year-end 1981 — some hard-core MNLF members still managed to carry out operations against civilian and military targets.

Since October, some 35 people have been killed in MNLF rebel attacks.

The figure could become higher if the number of unsolved killings by grenade attacks was established as the work of the MNLF which, along with communist rebels, have often been made scapegoats for general unrest.

## Sanctuary

Notwithstanding the reduction of tension, government and military authorities have remained alert by keeping tabs on rebel movements for possible regrouping following reports of arms being slipped into remote coastal areas from a training camp in a neighbouring territory.

Although the reported land-

ings have not been substantiated, the government pursued its campaign to weaken the MNLF base by offering the rebels incentives to lay down their arms and by giving prominent play to a power struggle among the foreign-based MNLF leadership.

The most recent government move was to invite visitors from Arab countries in an effort to wean away the support they were giving to MNLF leaders who found sanctuary in several Middle East countries.

But what is considered a major stroke in helping resolve the nine years of political strife is the scheduled official visit to Jeddah next month of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, who has expressed the hope that Saudi Arabia would mediate to end to the conflict.

Saudi Arabia's King Khaled wields a strong influence on the 43-nation Islamic conference and the Arab League, both of which are based in Jeddah, and he might be influential in helping bring an end to the MNLF secessionist conflict that has left 88,000 people dead. — AFP

## CREDITABLE 1981 ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE DESPITE HOSTILE FACTORS

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 13 Feb 82 p 9

[Article by Manolo B. Jara]

[Text] THE Philippine economy underwent a severe test less last year and emerged badly shaken but definitely not out.

The scars of the battle are still there. Its gross national product (GNP) grew in real terms by a mere 4.7 per cent in 1981, "admittedly the lowest in the Five-Year Development Plan (1978-82)."

At the same time, the country's export earnings plunged while its trade deficit rose as did interest payments on foreign loans. The Philippine peso likewise deteriorated against the US dollar, clearly manifesting its weakened external position.

"The year just past literally put to test the essential strength of the Philippine economy and the flexibility of the financial system," central bank governor Jaime Laya told President Marcos in a 14-page preliminary report on the country's economic performance.

But in Mr Laya's reckoning the economy passed the severe test "creditably." The major economic indicators showed gains in some areas despite "hostile influence of the external environment and dislocative incidents in the internal financial scene."

Even the growth of GNP — the sum total of the country's goods and services produced — was "appreciable," insisted Mr Laya, especially when viewed against the "economic dislocations of the period." The 1978-82 development plan originally set the overall economic growth targets at 7.5 per cent for 1979 and 1980, then rising to 8 per cent for 1981 and 1982.

But the country's economic managers scaled down the targets due to world recession and decline in world trade. Under the revised plan, the GNP annual growth rate was pegged at 5.5 per cent for 1980, 6 per cent for 1981 and 6.5 per cent in for 1982. Even then, the 1981 GNP growth rate of 4.7 per cent was 1.3 per cent down from the the 6 per cent target.

One economic indicator which showed gains despite the adverse conditions is the inflation rate. Inflation went down to 12.5 per cent last year. Mr Laya reported. This is the lowest inflation rate since 1979 "and considerably below the rates registered by non-oil developing countries and the world in general."

In 1980, the Philippines registered an inflation rate of 17.5 per cent, according to the Asian Development Bank. That placed it second to Thailand with the highest inflation rate among the five-member Association of South-East Asian Nations. Thailand then had a high 19.9 per cent inflation rate, replacing Indonesia at the top.

In his report, Mr Laya said the country's 1981 trade deficit jumped to US\$2.533 billion or a 47 per cent increase from 1980's US\$1.726 billion. This was attributed to declining export earnings and higher import payments, particularly oil which ate up one-third of the export-earnings.

Export earnings declined from US\$4.653 billion in 1980 to US\$4.53 billion last year, the report said. However the total import growth slowed down to about 10 per cent last year from 1980's 26 per cent. As a result Mr Laya said, import payments rose from US\$4.379 billion to only about US\$4.985 billion "mainly because of the higher oil bill (for 1981)."

About 25 per cent of the export earnings — US\$1.102 billion also went to interest payments on loans. This meant a 10 per cent jump from the 15 per cent of 1980 due to the expansion in foreign borrowing and the increase in interest rates in the international capital market, Mr Laya said.

The country's trade gap was also indicated by the deterioration in the peso-dollar exchange rate, according to the report. However, the peso weakening was described only as "moderate" in the light of worldwide deterioration of major currencies against the US dollar.

A mitigating factor eased somewhat the country's yawning overall balance of payments problem. This came in the form of substantial gains in remittances of Filipino overseas workers. "This brought the overall deficit in the country's foreign exchange transactions to US\$540 million which is 47 per cent higher than the US\$331 million shortfall in 1980," Mr Laya said.

On external debts, Mr Laya revealed that as of 1981, these stood at a staggering US\$15.835 billion. The figure exceeded by US\$3.134 billion the 1980 level. Over half of the total, he explained, was for the public sector which further accelerated its borrowing programme to "sustain expenditures for development projects and to replenish its relending fund for private borrowers."

Earlier, however, Mr Laya raised a warning about the country's foreign borrowing. In his report on the first nine months of 1981, he warned: "In the context of the rising cost of foreign borrowings, it is important to exercise great care in project selection and in monitoring uses to which external finances are put, to ensure that external borrowings are applied toward highly productive investments which require the minimum outlay of foreign exchange." — Depthnews Asia.

## GOVERNMENT BACKING FOR TRADITIONAL VALUES

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 9 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Francis Daniel in Singapore]

[Text] GOVERNMENT leaders are concerned that a new breed of young affluent Singaporeans is emerging in the rapidly developing island state with scant regard for moral and traditional Asian values.

The problem is considered so serious that the government has decided to resort to legislation and other tough measures without which, one senior minister warned, Singapore could become "a nation of thieves."

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew announced last week that laws would be introduced to make young Singaporeans take care of their aged parents, while his deputy, Dr Goh Keng Swee, said religion and Confucian ethics would be made compulsory subjects in high schools.

The other government members of Parliament — the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) — controls all but one of the 75 seats in the legislature — applauded the moves as the best way to give Singaporeans a cultural ballast against the less desirable aspects of Western culture.

But many educationists and religious leaders expressed doubt that Asian values and filial piety can be forced to a people who have been fast absorbing

Western lifestyles since their independence 20 years ago.

Mr Lee and his colleagues, known for their tenacious pursuit of set targets, appear determined, however, to make sure that the 2.4 million Singaporeans discard liberal Western concepts which, they say, place great emphasis on youth and vitality, not age and wisdom.

In a Lunar New Year message on Jan. 25, Mr Lee told his predominantly Chinese population that he was upset over the increasing tendency of young couples living separately from their old parents.

If filial obligations are not honoured, then the government must pass laws to ensure that ancient customs and traditions are upheld, according to Mr Lee.

Estate duty concessions on houses left to children "will have to be conditional on a son or a daughter living with the surviving parent in the house," he said.

On the other hand, the government would make it worthwhile for at least one son or one daughter, after marriage, to live in their parents' homes, or to take their parents into their own homes, he added.

Mr Lee believes care for the aged is a Confucianist quality and will

nicely fit in with his government's policy of avoiding any Western-style state welfare system.

A government consultant on moral education said, however, that the government could not absolve itself from blame for the breakup of the traditional extended family system in Singapore.

"How can we expect the Chinese extended family to exist in Singapore when the government family planning programme restricts to two children and its housing policies separate families into two bedroom flats, some of which are on floors with no lifts for elderly people?" he asked.

Mr Lee's edicts on filial piety followed a suggestion by his deputy, Dr Goh, that religion be made a compulsory subject in high schools in a bid to produce honest, upright citizens.

Stealing had become common practice in the Singapore Army and schools and unless this was arrested the state faced the danger of becoming a nation of thieves, he said.

Dr Goh's plan is to make it compulsory for students to learn one of Singapore's four main religions — Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism and Christianity. Students

unwilling to study any of these must learn world religions, including Sikhism and Judaism, or Confucian ethics.

The idea is for students to leave school knowing it is wrong to lie, cheat and steal and also knowing that all will be lost in Singapore unless the government leaders were upright men, according to Dr Goh.

But most of the Christian mission schools expressed reservations over the Goh plan and warned the government not to be too hasty in carrying out its scheme.

But Dr Goh is of a different mind. He told all those who disagreed with his plan: "I think your approach is a very timid one. We can't sit and do nothing. Bold measures are needed."

As part of these bold measures, the government would be introducing Confucian ethics in Singapore schools, he said.

Describing the ethics expounded by the Fifth Century B.C. Chinese sage as a form of political ideology and a code of conduct, Dr Goh said:

"Confucius believed that unless the government is in the hands of upright men, disaster will befall the country. In this respect, the PAP (the ruling party) also believes the same thing."

— Reuter

## KEY FIGURE IN MUSLIM EXTREMIST ORGANIZATION

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 23 Jan 82 pp 1, 23

[Text]

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN.** — A former teacher at a Brunei school has been identified as one of the key figures behind a Muslim extremist organisation set up to try and overthrow the Singapore government.

The man, Sulaiman bin Muhamad Shariff, 47, was one of 10 people arrested by Internal Security Department officers in a series of swoops in the republic a week ago.

The group calls itself the Singapore People's Liberation Organisation (in Malay, the Organisasi Pembebasan Rakyat Singapura) and its aim was to bring down the government through communal unrest and sabotage, said Home Affairs Ministry officials there.

Sulaiman, who arrived in Brunei from Singapore, taught for a year at SOAS College in the state capital.

Former friends say he was asked to leave the school sometime during 1978 and then left the state.

Education Department officials would not comment on why Sulaiman left the school.

In 1971 he was sacked from a teaching post in Singapore for contravening school regulations and misconduct.

Before being moved to the Brunei Education Department, Sulaiman worked for some years as the government tourist officer here.

He has been described by the Singapore Home Affairs Ministry as one of four "core" members of the extremist organisation.

It said the group comprised "a handful of disgruntled Malays and Indian Muslims who, through their actions and utterances, demonstrated they are racialists and extremists and who will not hesitate to use violence to achieve their objectives."

The ministry's statement said the group had planned to create communal unrest by distributing pamphlets and carrying out acts of arson, the planting of bombs at shopping centres, community centres, cinemas and Port of Singapore Authority warehouses.

The extremists also intended to solicit support, including manpower and finance, from foreign powers and individuals to carry out their plans.



## RIVAL FACTIONS DIVIDE OPPOSITION PARTY

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 28 Jan 82 p 19

[Article by Mallika Wanigasundara in Colombo]

[Excerpts]

THE Sri Lanka Freedom Party, the country's largest opposition group, has gone ahead and did exactly what the ruling United National Party would like to see.

It has split right down the middle after a bitter and acrimonious infighting between two rival factions. One is headed by former Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike and the other by Mr Maithripala Senanayake, SLFP deputy leader.

The feud involves ideological friction, political rivalries and personal animosities. It reached a climax in mid-December when Mrs Bandaranaike's faction or SLFP (B) expelled 17 "dissident members" of the SLFP (M) led by Mr Senanayake.

Among those expelled were Mrs Bandaranaike's own son, Anura, Mr Senanayake, former Speaker Stanley Tillekeratne, former Minister P.G.B. Kalugalle, trade union leaders and sitting Members of Parliament (MPs). Earlier, 13 of these SLFP "dissidents," including Anura, had been suspended from membership of the party's politburo by the Bandaranaike faction.

The mass dismissal was preceded by the handing over of government-requisitioned SLFP headquarters to the Senanayake faction by the government. In the

course of the infighting, the Darley Road headquarters of the SLFP in Colombo had been "captured" in turn by the contending parties. Eventually, it was sealed by the government.

The two contending SLFP factions have now asked the court to decide on the rightful ownership of the headquarters. But while handing over the headquarters to the SLFP (M), Sri Lanka's secretary to the Ministry of Defence referred to Mr Senanayake as the SLFP president.

## Recognition

Observers said that in so doing, the government as good as recognised the SLFP (M) as the SLFP proper. What repercussions this recognition will have on the electorate is another matter. To be "favoured" by the ruling UNP is not exactly what would appeal to hardcore SLFP supporters.

Already, Mrs Bandaranaike has been alleging that there has been collusion between the Senanayake group and the ruling UNP to disenfranchise her. But admittedly, observers said, the government action was a crafty, well-timed and calculated move. For earlier, peace moves were afoot to bring the contending factions together.

And this is exactly

what the UNP did not want to see. Timing it to distract attention from some work-a-day cracks in its own ranks, it threw in this spanner in the works to create disarray in SLFP ranks on both sides.

As Anura himself put it: "President Jayewardene called the tune and the actors played their parts. The Senanayake group took possession of the headquarters building and the opposing group expelled them from the party."

The split is complete for the present. But there is one thing that the two warring SLFP factions and UNP political strategists are well aware of: that it is Mrs Bandaranaike, the charismatic widow, who is the vote-catcher. In short, she is the SLFP symbol.

Which is why the UNP has set out to neutralise her, according to observers. It is also the main reason why even the dissident SLFP (M) still acknowledges her as the SLFP leader.

The expulsion of sitting MPs, meanwhile, could have drastic repercussions on them under the provisions of the present Constitution. The Constitution provides that an MP who is dismissed from a party can be also expelled from Parliament. This does not happen automatically and immediately, but only after certain procedures are followed.

This threat hangs over the heads of the SLFP members now in Parliament. But it depends on which SLFP faction is recognised by the Elections Commissioner M.A. Piyasekera.

Both Mrs Bandaranaike and Anura are steadfast in their Press statements that there is no animosity between them. And each says of the other that he or she is either being "misled, imprisoned or manoeuvred by ambitious and calculating persons." The two realise the need for SLFP unity, especially with the elections scheduled in mid-1983.

Immediately after the expulsion of the 17 members, called the "Gang of 17," Mrs Bandaranaike said the door was still open for a reconciliation. It is not the end of the road for negotiations, she said.

The rival groups admit, however, that anti-UNP forces have to unite before the 1983 elections. And true to their word, they have sent out separate calls to the left-winged parties.

As a result, the SLFP, now taking stock of its fortunes, finds itself engaged in unity talks in several directions. The UNP watches, alert and gleeful at the dilemma in which the SLFP has allowed itself to be placed.

— Depthnews A-12



## PARLIAMENT BUILDING COMPLETED IN NEW ADMINISTRATIVE CAPITAL

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 9 Feb 82 p 23

[Article by Clarence Fernando in Colombo]

[Text]

**PRESIDENT** Junius Jayewardene will perform the ceremonial opening of a new parliamentary complex near here this month, marking a milestone in Sri Lanka's history.

The occasion will signal the end of Colombo's pre-eminence as the administrative capital of this Indian Ocean island since the British occupation in 1815.

The capital is being moved because Colombo has become too congested.

The sprawling parliamentary complex in the new administrative capital of Sri Jayawardenapura covers 68,000 square metres (730,000 sq ft) on a site some eight km (5 miles) southwest of here.

Sri Jayawardenapura, also known as Kotte, is the site of a former Sinhalese kingdom which came under Portuguese rule in the 17th century.

### Monument

Costing 900 million rupees (US\$45 million), the parliamentary complex is a monument to the combined skills of Sri Lankan, Japanese, Malaysian, Philippine and Singaporean engi-

neers and craftsmen.

It was built by a Japanese consortium, the Mitsui Company and Mitsui Construction Company of Tokyo, on a contract awarded by the Sri Lanka government.

The consortium's administrative manager, Takahiro Kawakatsu, said 1,800 workers had been working on the project which they began in November 1979.

"The building is ready and only the finishing touches, the manicuring of the lawns and the internal decor, like the delicate hand-painting of murals, are being done now," he said.

The new parliament, on an island skirted by a slow-moving river, is modelled on traditional Sinhalese architecture.

Modern technology has been used by engineers from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines to make it one of the most modern parliamentary buildings in the region.

It has seating accommodation for 200 members, two more than the 198 members who will be elected at the next general election in 1983.

The present parliament of 168 members, is in a building in Colombo put up by the British in 1930.

Two pairs of massive doors, both made in Japan, provide access to the parliamentary chamber, which is panelled in tamarind, ebony wood and Burma teak processed in Singapore.

One pair of doors is made of bronze and weighs about seven tons. The other, made of silver and carrying an inscription recording the country's independence and nationhood, was designed by Sri Lanka architect Jiffy Bawa.

The 21-metre (70 foot) high ceiling is of embossed aluminium, so made, said Mr Kawakatsu, "that it will keep its shine for ever."

The shifting of Parliament has sparked off a massive building programme. Many government departments are also moving from Colombo to the new capital.

Among the new buildings going up is a 1,000-bed hospital which the Japanese government is donating as an outright gift to Sri Lanka. — Reuter

## CPT'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY FINDS PARTY BRUISED BUT NOT BROKEN

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 2 Feb 82 p 19

[Article by Anuraj Manibhandu in Bangkok]

[Text]

THE outlawed Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) turns 40 this year, its image bruised but its will apparently far from broken.

The pro-Peking party has taken one blow after another since Vietnamese-led forces marched into Phnom Penh on Jan. 7, 1978, prompting China to throw its lot behind the ousted Khmer Rouge leadership.

The Thai party's internal troubles are told in the delay of its fourth national congress, initially expected to take place in 1979, even then a yawning 18-year lapse since the third such gathering in September 1961.

"It means they have lost," said Colonel Chakorn Tossawat, spokesman of the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC), the government's counter-insurgency arm. Other critics have not been slow to capitalise on the sore point.

But the party's military arm, the People's Liberation Army of Thailand (PLAT), leading its "armed struggle" since "gunburst day" on Aug. 7 1965, has clearly denied a controversial suggestion that it was doomed to defeat.

The guerrillas killed 15 government troopers in the south and 19 others in the north within weeks after army authorities announced in October, 1981 that their last bastions were about to fall.

## Power

However, there is no doubt that the party that grew out of the "Chinese Communist Party of Thailand" is hurting inside from wounds inflicted by the security crisis that came with China's move to back the Khmer Rouge.

China, whose revolutionary theories still dominate the Thai Party's thinking, was not only less attentive but, apparently, in an exchange for an ally on the Cambodian question, closed down the Voice of the People of Thailand (VOPT) party broadcasting station in Southern China on July 11, 1979, following talks with the then Thai Premier Kriangsak Chomanan.

The blow screamed for self-reliance but, according to Thai intelligence reports, it was not until recent months that the party started conducting experimental broadcasts from the north of Thailand.

In a reportedly weak test run on the party's 39th anniversary on Dec. 1, 1981, the party reaffirmed its commitment to seizing power by force.

Before China dealt the blow, Vietnam, which has provided military training, announced that it would no longer support Thai insurgents.

The September 1978 announcement by Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong during a visit

here was followed 11 months later by the expulsion of a senior captain cadre from Hanoi.

## Defection

Laos told Thai insurgents to leave unless they were willing to break from China. But, though external pressures put the Thai communists in disarray, internal conflicts saw over 2,000 quit in the past two years for "lack" of democracy in the party.

Thai military analysts have pointed to differences in analyses of Thai society, and refusal to accept pro-Chinese trends.

Almost all students, intellectuals and politicians who went underground following campus clashes here in October 1976 have emerged.

They were not integrated into the party as such but were organised in a front — the Committee for Coordinating Patriotic and Democratic Forces (CCPDF) — an arrangement seen by Thai military analysts as a bid to minimise clashes between the "old guard" and the young activists.

Despite their defection, Thai authorities are unconvinced that they have made a clean break with the party.

Analysts see the party's recent strategy change as an attempt to draw back the defectors.

The new strategy, reportedly implemented in some parts of the north-east, calls for equal em-

phasis on operations in the jungles, plains and towns, to be conducted on political as well as military fronts.

But though the party is apparently making changes as its military arm continues to show mettle, the arrest of a politburo member — Damri Ruengsutham — in April last year has left a negative mark.

Thai military analysts were strongly sceptical of a later party explanation that he was on his way to peace talks with the government, which categorically rejected the suggestion.

The party has also suffered a considerable loss of armed fighters although estimates vary. According to one Thai official source, the guerrillas' armed strength has dropped from about 11,100 in 1979 to 7,000 last year, with the largest contingent of 1,900 in the South.

In fiscal 1981 that ended last September, 142 insurgents were killed, 87 captured and another 1,300 defected.

While the CPT struggles through troubled times, Thai authorities are keeping watch on a so-called "new party" apparently seeking to unite "disappointed intellectuals" from the Jungles.

The man behind what authorities describe as "still a concept" is a former MP for north-eastern Thailand, Boonyen Wothong, currently in political asylum in Laos. — AFP.

## SHORTAGE OF CABLE DELAYS EXPANSION OF CABLE RADIO NETWORK

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 3 Feb 82 p 21

[Article by Alex Marshall in Hanoi]

[Text]

WHILE some countries weigh the likely effects of cable television, Vietnam is trying to extend its cable radio network. Started in 1956 after the war against the French, the network now covers the whole of North Vietnam. Nearly every house has its set, linked through a village or commune centre to one of 60 local receiving stations, over which comes news, propaganda, music, early morning exercise classes, drama, instructions and advice.

A strong local flavour is given by the commune relay which adds its own programming to the centrally produced material. In some places, reports and requests by the village committees are relayed over a phone linked to the cable, to the district party or cooperative headquarters.

Ly Van Sau, director of the service, claims that North Vietnam's recent good harvest is proof of the network's effectiveness. New methods of cultivation were used, farmers following instructions given over the cable, and yields rose significantly, he says.

Brave New World?

North Vietnam is certainly not Huxley's vi-

sion: most of its 30 million people are clumped in villages of 3,000 to 5,000 each, throughout the rich plain of the Red River and into the hills beyond. With few good roads or telephones in most parts, radio becomes a vital link.

The cable costs almost nothing to the villager; on the other hand transistor batteries are scarce and expensive, and often the only way to obtain them is to register the set with the commune which controls supplies. TV sets (about a million throughout the country) must also be registered.

Radio has been part of Vietnamese life since it was started in the jungle over 30 years ago. Mr Sau was there. "We had two elephants and we used to load up the transmitter every morning and move. The French never found us. Afterwards the elephants got a medal." Radio Vietnam has been off the air for only nine minutes since then — on Christmas Eve of Dec. 24, 1972, the US bombing of Hanoi.

Cable was adopted as a low-cost alternative to a "wireless" system under which every family would have had to buy

their own radio. Plans for expansion include extending the service to the southern provinces and more programming. A new unit has been set up to produce programmes on agriculture, health and family planning with the help of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The unit will shortly set up shop in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and expand its present offices in Hanoi. With UNFPA help, 30 trainees spent three months at the Development Training and Communications Planning (DTCP) centre in Bangkok.

But all is not roses. In the commune we visited near Hanoi, the operator/announcer proudly put on a scratchy record, saying "Everyone is hearing this," and took us to a solid brick-built house nearby. No sound. The solid citizen had disconnected his set because it interfered with his nightly television-watching. By the time he hooked it up again, the electricity had failed.

TV will not be a big force in Vietnam for

some time yet. It airs for only two hours in the evening, from 7 pm to 9 pm, and the most popular programmes are sports, beamed by satellite from the USSR or Eastern Europe. The local programming, especially drama, professionally acted and produced, suffers from poor facilities — Hanoi's TV studios are housed in a converted rice warehouse — and a melange of equipment from all over the world.

"Good politically," as we were told in an aside. "Bad technically." Shortage of spare parts means home repairs, but everything in a video-tape recorder, for example, can be fixed except the recording head. Colour TV is on the way — there is a fully-equipped colour studio — but so far colour is used only for training of "cadres" — technical staff to you and me.

So the short-term future is with cable radio. "We have lots of problems," says Ly Van Sau cheerfully, "like loss of power, old equipment. Communes in the south are not yet fully organised. But I think the chief problem in expanding the cable network is finding enough cable." — Depthnews Special

**END OF**

**FICHE**

**DATE FILMED**

MARCH 22, 1982